

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN COMMEMORATION OF HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY MAY 2, 2000

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, which memorializes the six million Jews murdered during World War II.

This somber anniversary is a tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, the heroism of those who fought back, and the strength of those who survived. A national holiday in Israel, Yom Hashoah is also commemorated across this country.

I strongly believe that we must act on our promise to "never forget" by acting on our responsibility to teach future generations about the lessons of the Holocaust. As we prepare our children for a new century, we must instill in them the tolerance and compassion to prevent the greatest terror of the past century from ever being repeated in the next. The legacy of the survivors of the Holocaust and of those who perished will only live on if we educate people about this history.

It was only last month that British Courts exonerated historian Deborah Lipstadt of the libel charges brought by a Holocaust denier. Although the decision reaffirmed that Holocaust denial is false history and Nazi sympathy, it is unfortunate that such attempts to distort and trivialize the Holocaust abound. The release of the Eichmann diaries as evidence used in the trial only further establishes the reality of the Holocaust and the dangers of those who seek to deny it.

Today is an opportunity to recommit ourselves to stand against anti-Semitism, discrimination, and intolerance in all forms, at home and abroad. We reflect upon the murder of 6 million innocent Jewish men, women and children, and the systematic destruction of families and vibrant communities. We reestablish our determination to confront the past, and our dedication to perpetuating the memory of those who suffered.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 290, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. CASS BALLENGER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 13, 2000*

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be able to vote today for the final version of the congressional budget for fiscal year 2001 (H. Con. Res. 290). Again, I wish to congratulate my colleagues on the House

Budget Committee and their counterparts in the other body for their hard work in crafting a fiscal year 2001 budget and pushing it to passage ahead of schedule.

First, this congressional budget keeps a lid on runaway federal spending. For the second year in a row, this budget devotes the entire Social Security surplus, totaling \$161 billion in fiscal year 2001, to a lock box to prevent it from being used to finance other government programs. And, it proposes the creation of a \$40 billion reserve fund over five years to be used to reform Medicare and provide prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries who need it. Simultaneously, it allows us to continue to pay down the public debt (a trillion dollars of it over five years), making it possible to eliminate the entire public debt by 2013.

In addition, the Republican budget proposal calls for tax cuts of up to \$150 billion over five years, including the elimination of the marriage penalty. It also contains tax relief for small businesses, phases out the estate or 'death' tax, establishes tax incentives for educational assistance and tax relief associated with pending health care reform legislation.

Finally, I am pleased to report that the Republican budget increases spending for primary and secondary education, including Pell Grants (which we have increased by about 50% since we assumed control of Congress in 1995); national defense and programs to support our military men and women; transportation; and veterans programs. In response to many of my constituents' concerns, it also decreases foreign aid expenditures. Again, I believe this budget fulfills my commitment to 10th District citizens to support budget reforms and fiscally responsible spending.

RADIO BROADCASTING PRESERVATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 13, 2000*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3439) to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from establishing rules authorizing the operation on new, low power FM radio stations:

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 3439, the Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act, because it protects the interests of all parties affected by low-power FM.

I have several small and independent broadcasters in my district. They provide important services to communities in Lancaster and Chester Counties, PA. Unfortunately, the FCC Low-Power FM rule threatens these broadcasters and many like them across the country.

While the intentions of the FCC are good, its policy is bad. The FCC's low-power FM policy does not provide adequate safeguards against broadcasting interference.

Do we really want to increase the burden for these small and independent stations, many of which are already struggling to stay on the air? I think not.

For this reason, we need to pass H.R. 3439 and protect FM station license holders in small, rural markets where there are already limited opportunities for stations to sell the advertising that covers operating expenses.

H.R. 3439 makes sure we take a hard look at the consequences of low-power FM by requiring the FCC to conduct an economic impact study of low-power FM on existing broadcasters, with an emphasis on minority and small-market broadcasters. This bill also requires the FCC to properly conduct tests to prevent broadcast interference.

I thank my colleague, Mr. OXLEY, for introducing this important bill. We must ensure all parties affected by low-power FM—existing small and independent broadcasters, public radio stations, and radio listeners—are given the consideration they deserve.

PROJECT EXILE: THE SAFE STREETS AND NEIGHBORHOODS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4051, "Project Exile: The Safe Streets and Neighborhoods Act of 2000." Project Exile adopts a zero-tolerance for federal gun crimes, with federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors working hand-in-hand to prosecute each and every firearms violation. This program imposes stringent and serious consequences on armed criminals by demonstrating that prosecution and punishment provides for deterrence and prevention. We need to send a real clear message to criminals who abuse our Second Amendment. Project Exile is a positive step in the direction to reduce firearm related crime in America by providing a five-year mandatory minimum sentence, with no eligibility for parole, for anyone who uses or carries a firearm in the commission of a violent crime, drug trafficking crime or for any convicted felon found to be in possession of a firearm.

Project Exile is one of the most aggressive, creative and innovative crime control plans ever initiated. Since its inception in Richmond, Virginia, in 1997, Project Exile has produced overwhelmingly successful results; the Project has put more than 200 armed criminals behind bars; one violent gang responsible for many Richmond murders has been eliminated; the rate of gun carrying by criminals has been cut nearly in half; and the armed robbery rate for 1998 has declined 29 percent. This is just one state with significant examples of how the implementation of Project Exile has decreased gun-related crimes. It has proved to be so effective that Project Exile has expanded to

• 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.

other areas such as Rochester, New York and Philadelphia and other areas are considering adopting the same approach. Project Exile needs to be applied on a federal level and not just on a state level. We cannot comprise American families and their safety by just denying felons access to guns. We must do more. We must effectively enforce gun laws.

We cannot be sure that our criminal justice system is doing all that it can do to keep guns out of the hands of violent felons if these felons are not consistently being prosecuted for their crimes. Our focus needs to be criminal control and not gun control. It is about time we take proactive measures to protect law-abiding citizens from becoming the victims of violent gun crimes. I urge my colleagues to vote for Project Exile.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HUMAN SPIRIT  
OF MR. JOHN FRIDLEY

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I praise the human spirit. We have become a cynical nation. It has become cliché to say that a good person is hard to find. I don't believe that for one minute. I meet good people everyday. On this occasion, I would like to commend Mr. John Fridley, of New Baden, Illinois.

John is a member of the Wesclin Community Unit School Board, the Kaskaskia Special School District Board and on the advisory board at Belleville Area College as well as active in his church. John also is a member of the Year 2000 Allocations panel for the United Way of Metro East. This father and grandfather, former teacher and retired member of the U.S. Air Force, now works as a civilian at Scott Air Force Base. By all indications, John is a success.

He credits his sense of civic duty and volunteerism to his father, who instilled in young John what you owe your services to the community where you live. Mr. Fridley is a dynamic leader and an inspiration to all of us in the 20th District of Illinois.

TRIBUTE TO ECKERD  
CORPORATION

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a very important player in the war against drugs in our nation. The Eckerd Corporation has for many years now sponsored a Drug Quiz Show that reaches over 30,000 middle school students in New York State. This program teaches students important lessons about the dangers of substance abuse in a creative 'game show' format. In years past, the Eckerd Corporation has received recognition awards from the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and New York State Governor George Pataki. I believe that the local efforts of the Eckerd Corporation are in line with the company's national campaign, and I believe that

the Eckerd Corporation deserves to be recognized for its long-standing commitment to the Drug Quiz Show format.

Finals for this year's competition are scheduled to take place on Monday, May 8th, 2000 in Syracuse, New York. I would like to thank the coordinators of the event, especially Executive Director, Ms. Susan Meidenbauer, the Eckerd Corporation, the students, the schools, the parents, and administrators who are so supportive of this outstanding and exciting opportunity to educate young and old about the dangers of substance abuse.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CHARLES CITY  
HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**HON. JIM NUSSLE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the Charles City High School Music Department for its selection as a GRAMMY Signature School for the second time in as many years.

I would like to congratulate the students of the Charles City High School band, choir and orchestra. They are one of only 100 schools to be recognized in the country this year, and one of the three from Iowa. With this achievement, they have demonstrated that they have the ability and the desire to be assets and role models in their community and the great state of Iowa.

This award is given to schools that are dedicated to advancing music and arts-based education by the GRAMMY Foundation, a non-profit arm of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS). The recipients of this award are determined on the basis of a scoring system applied by an advisory committee made up of members of the musical industry.

I also congratulate the directors of the three music departments at the school; the Director of Bands, Jim Jurgensen, the Director of Vocal Music, Larry Michehl, and the Director of Orchestras, Nancy Western as well as Principal Jon Nordaas and the entire faculty at Charles City High School. Without their guidance and support, and that of the entire community, this prestigious recognition would not have been possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to and congratulating the Charles City High School Music Department for the outstanding achievement of receiving the NARAS GRAMMY Signature School Award.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD DEEB AND  
HARVEY WEISBERG

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, May 7, 2000 a dinner will be held under the sponsorship of American Arab and Jewish Friends, a program of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ). The NCCJ is an

organization founded to improve understanding and friendship between the Arab and Jewish communities.

The dinner honors two exceptionally distinguished citizens of Michigan, Edward Deeb and Harvey Weisberg.

Ed Deeb has been a leader in the food industry for almost forty years, currently serving as President and CEO of the Michigan Food & Beverage Association, Chairman of the Eastern Market Merchants Association and head of the Michigan Business and Professional Association. His commitment to community is demonstrated through his continuing coordination of the Metro Detroit Youth Day and his service in numerous organizations in a variety of capacities, among them the Salvation Army, United Way Community Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Michigan.

Harvey Weisberg also has had a distinguished career in the food industry, playing a leading role in the retail business in Michigan. He has long been actively involved in improving the lives of those who live in Metro Detroit. He is a National Commissioner and a member of the Michigan Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, serves on the boards of the Jewish Welfare Federation, United Jewish Charities, Hillel Day School, United Hebrew Schools and the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce. Harvey had recently become involved with the Children's Sports For Peace Organization, which is planning to build sports facilities in Israel, Gaza City and other Arab cities.

It has been my pleasure to know Ed Deeb and Harvey Weisberg during their decades of professional and community work. I admire their efforts to create broader understanding between the Arab-American and Jewish communities in Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Edward Deeb and Harvey Weisberg. It is very fitting that they be honored for their endeavors. May they help to stimulate further efforts to foster meaningful dialogue about major challenges and opportunities.

TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

**HON. LEE TERRY**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 12, 2000*

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the H.J. Res. 94, the Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment. I would first like to thank my distinguished colleague from Texas, Representative PETE SESSIONS for sponsoring this overdue piece of legislation. This legislation of which I am cosponsor, requires any tax increase passed by Congress to be supported by more than a simple majority. The Tax Limitation Amendment states that any tax increase must pass by a two-thirds vote of Congress.

Taxes are the most fundamental means of pricing out the government, and yet few taxpayers understand the price that they pay when members of Congress pass tax increases by a simple majority. Currently, 14 states require tax limitation standards, which have caused tax and spending decreases while increasing employment and economic

expansion. Why not implement a tax limitation standard on the federal level so that this same effect can be felt by all Americans?

There are a number of important issues which require a two-thirds vote by Congress such as amending the Constitution, overriding a Presidential veto; two events which clearly require the parties of Congress to come to a consensus. The decision to increase taxes is an important issue and it too should require more than a majority, it should require a consensus.

When Congress votes yes to increase taxes, it has an effect on everyone. When I was elected to represent the second district of Nebraska, one of my priorities was to fight against any and all attempts by the federal government to take more money away from my constituents. Last year many of my colleagues and I voted to cut \$792 billion dollars in taxes for hard-working Americans, a great effort which was vetoed by the President. Unfortunately, we had no hope of overriding the President's veto because we could not muster the two-thirds votes necessary from the House. Any attempt by members of Congress to cut taxes is put in jeopardy by the President's ability to veto. We should require any increase in taxes to receive overwhelming support of Congress—a two-thirds vote.

Many of the major tax increases levied on Americans have passed without a two-thirds vote. In 1982, Congress passed the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act which cost the taxpayer \$214 billion dollars without a two-thirds vote; Congress passed the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 totaling \$40 billion dollars without a two-thirds vote; Congress passed the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 for \$25 billion dollars without a two-thirds vote; Congress passed the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 for a whopping \$137 billion dollars without a two-thirds vote. Finally, Congress passed one of the largest tax increases in American history, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 for \$275 billion dollars by 1 vote not a two-thirds vote. I believe that I have made my point. If you are going to send Americans a tax bill, you better have the support from two-thirds of Congress.

The economy of the United States is at a fiscally sound level, but our taxes remain to be the highest they have been since World War II. As Congress, our main goal is to keep our economy sound and contribute to the current prosperity. Preventing future tax increases will help us in this mission. One way to accomplish this is to require a two-thirds vote from Congress before making a decision that could alter our lives.

Federal tax laws have numerous unintended consequences on Americans. Congress needs to make decisions in the best interest of Americans by ensuring that any federal tax increase is supported by more than just a simple majority. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on this bill.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. SHIRLEY  
SCHMITT

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Ms. Shirley Schmitt, who is the fifth-grade

teacher at St. Jacob Elementary School. Shirley was named the school Recycling Coordinator of the Year, otherwise known as the "Recycling Queen" because of her creative ways of cleaning up the world around her.

As a former teacher, I know that you have to be inventive to grab and then maintain the kid's attention. Her recycling program is much more than separating glass and plastic, she makes it fun. Let me share with you some of Shirley's ideas: using pencil shavings as mulch or using 6 pack plastic rings along with a shish-kabob stick to make flowers.

When you are creative in the classroom, and make projects fun, you dare a child to dream. That is the magic of teaching. Thank you Shirley.

TRIBUTE TO MS. AMANDA NODINE

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I received a letter two weeks ago from a constituent, The Honorable Lucille Craine, who is supervisor of the town of Victory, New York which is in my district. Included in the letter was an essay, written by Amanda Nodine, a thirteen-year-old student who attends Red Creek Central School. Amanda's essay, titled "Our Flag, Why Should We Respect It?", has received various acclamations, including recognition by the Wolcott Elk Lodge and other American Legion organizations.

I am very proud of Amanda for her patriotism and loyalty to our country. She exhibits discipline, sensitivity, and love for her country while also representing her school and her community. I am equally proud of Red Creek High School, the parents, and administrators who are so supportive of this outstanding young citizen.

I have included her essay for the record.

OUR FLAG, WHY SHOULD WE RESPECT IT?

(By Amanda Nodine)

The American Flag has many reasons why it should be respected. Yet many people don't understand the meanings of the American flag.

Many Americans fought for our country risking their lives. People died so they could save our country. The soldiers wanted all of us to be free now, in the future, and back then. The American flag shows honor and support for the people who fought, died, and suffered, all for our country.

The flag has many meanings. The flag symbolizes independence, freedom, justice, America, and democracy. The flag has 50 white stars on a navy blue background, and 13 alternating red and white stripes. The 13 strips represent the original 13 colonies. It has 50 stars for all of the 50 states. The flag's colors are red, white, and blue. Red standing for heroism, zeal, and faith; white for hope, purity, and cleanliness of life; and blue the color of heaven, in honor of God, loyalty, sincerity, justice, and truth.

We show patriotism when we salute the flag, fly it on/at important events, government buildings, schools, American legions, Elks Clubs, and other important buildings.

Without our flag we wouldn't be a free country. We could be owned by another country and ruled by one too.

The flag should be respected because it is an important monument and also because it

symbolizes the freedom of our country. Respect the American flag!

TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS MILLER  
OF MERIDIANVILLE, ALABAMA

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Mr. Thomas Miller of the Madison County Sheriffs Department. Mr. Miller goes above and beyond the duties of a public servant. Mr. Miller works the night shift with the Sheriff's Department, but still finds time to lead a group of Tiger Scouts.

Mr. Miller has dedicated himself to this group of eager young men and has taught them by example about a life of citizenship and patriotism. The Tiger Scouts respect Mr. Miller and the job he does everyday to protect them and their families, often without proper recognition or gratitude.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank him for his exemplary role as a leader in our community. Children in this country need more role models like Mr. Miller. I believe that this honor is fitting for someone who has given so much of himself for this community and this nation.

I want to wish Mr. Miller and his family best wishes and express to him my gratitude on behalf of the United States Congress for his selfless work with the Tiger Scouts in our community.

A CELEBRATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL GUIDE DOG DAY

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, thousands of individuals around the world will celebrate International Guide Dog Day. This day was brought to my attention last November, when I received a letter from a constituent of mine, Ms. Christine de Angeli. She is a junior at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Pottomac, MD, and has spent a great deal of time as a foster puppy raiser. She believes that having sight is a gift, and feels that it is important for her to donate her time toward improving mobility for those with visual impairments. At her urging, the State of Maryland will issue a Governor's Proclamation recognizing International Guide Dog Day.

Christine is currently raising her second dog guide puppy. Often when she is out with the puppy, she encounters people who are unaware of the opportunity to become a foster puppy raiser, oftentimes they are very interested in learning more about how they can help. These volunteers are great ambassadors for our country's dog guide program.

Just by happenstance Mr. Speaker, a new staff person in my office is a dog guide user. Watching her work her dog guide on the Metro, in meetings, and around the office has given me a much greater appreciation for the value of these dog guides and how they enable one to keep working despite the loss of vision.

Ms. de Angeli feels strongly that in this country we should have a day to recognize the work of dog guides, their handlers, the families, and many organizations such as the Lions Club that support dog guide schools.

Dog guides change the lives of people who are blind or have low vision. Training dog guides takes both volunteer time and private donations of funds. The average cost to successfully train a blind person and their dog guide is about \$25,000. Dog guide organizations rely on foster puppy raisers to raise future dog guides from the age of eight weeks until they start their formal guide training at 18 months. As International Guide Dog Day is acknowledged, many more families will become aware of the opportunity to be foster puppy raisers and will hopefully contribute time and energy to help their fellow citizens.

I salute these selfless individuals and marvelous animals for their contributions to our society.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH HOJNICKI,  
MEMBER OF THE CENTURY OF  
THE MINQUADALE FIRE COM-  
PANY

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I, as a member of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus, honor and pay tribute to a leader in the firefighting community—Joseph Hohnicki of the Minquadale Fire Company. Joseph Hohnicki is an outstanding, dedicated and caring Delawarean with an abundance of accomplishments in this field. On behalf of myself and the citizens of the First State, I would like to honor this outstanding individual and extend to him our congratulations on being chosen Minquadale Fire Company's Member of the Century.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the volunteer fire service in Delaware. It has been my privilege to have had the opportunity on many occasions to speak about this institution on the floor of the House of Representatives. These unselfish men and women provide their communities with essential volunteer public service. The volunteer fire service is as old as our nation. Benjamin Franklin was our first volunteer fire chief. It is tradition in the volunteer fire service for these men and women to not seek praise for what they do as volunteer firefighters. However, it is my privilege to praise Joseph Hohnicki, a man who has devoted the better part of his life to the volunteer fire service.

Today, I recognize Joseph Hohnicki of the Minquadale Delaware Fire Company. On Saturday, April 29, during the Seventy-fifth Annual Banquet of the Minquadale Fire Company, Joseph Hohnicki was named Member of the Century. He has provided more than 50 years of service to his community and the State of Delaware. He has done so in a manner that brings great distinction to the Minquadale community.

Family, friends and fellow firefighters can now take a moment to truly appreciate the world of difference Joseph Hohnicki has brought to the firefighting community. He has served for many years as Fire Chief and then

President of the Minquadale Fire Company. He later earned a statewide reputation in Delaware for his service as President of the New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association. Today, while past the age of seventy, Joseph Hohnicki continues to respond to fire service calls to protect his community.

Joseph Hohnicki believes in young people. His firm yet friendly manner has influenced and encouraged young men and women to become involved in the fire service. For many it was an alternative to the street and possibly getting into trouble. Joseph Hohnicki's leadership and guiding hand helped create many fine firefighters and officers while he taught civic responsibility to two generations of Minquadale's youth. Mr. Speaker, with his wife Irene at his side, the Hohnicki family proudly and unselfishly contributes everyday to the quality of life at home in their community and our entire state.

As Minquadale celebrates their Diamond Anniversary, I join with them as they honor and pay tribute to a man whom they have called their "greatest member." His selfless commitment to the cause of volunteer firefighters will have a permanent place in Delaware's volunteer fire service history. I am proud to call Joseph Hohnicki my friend.

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SGT. MAJ.  
DAVID B. RABON

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer says, in part, "I will strive to remain tactically and technically proficient. I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers and will always place their needs above my own . . ." These words certainly seem to be the sentiments of the many men and women of my home island who have distinguished themselves in all branches of military service. Indeed, military men from Guam have won praises for their loyalty, their patriotism, their commitment to duty, and their dedication to the mission for more than 300 years.

In the 17th century, when the Spaniards recruited men from Guam as sailors in the Spanish fleet; in World Wars I and II, when the American military worked shoulder to shoulder with Guamanians both as civilian volunteers and uniformed personnel; in the Korean war and the Vietnam conflict; in other conflicts with American involvement since then; and most recently, in the Persian Gulf war, the record established and maintained by military men and women from Guam is a long and very proud one. This continues today.

As we enter the new millennium, another son of Guam is carrying on the tradition. It gives me great pride to say that the new commandant of the U.S. Army Aviation Center Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Fort Rucker, AL, is Command Sgt. Maj. David B. Rabon, the son of Jesus Bontugan and Rosa Benavente Rabon. Born in my home village of Sinajana on August 15, 1949, Sergeant Major

Rabon enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1972, attended basic training at Fort Ord, CA, and advanced individual training [AIT] at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD, graduating from the AIT as an aircraft fire control repairman. In the 27 years he has spent in the Army, Sergeant Major Rabon has held numerous positions of leadership including squad leader; unit nuclear biological and chemical NCO; battalion aviation maintenance NCOIC; platoon sergeant; company first sergeant; service school instructor; service school branch chief; battalion and brigade command sergeant major.

Sergeant Major Rabon's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, the Good Conduct Medal 9th Award, the National Defense Service Medal w/Star, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with numeral "4", the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral "4", the NATO Medal, the Master Aircraft Crewman Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Honorable Order of St. Michael Bronze award.

Command Sergeant Major Rabon's long and distinguished military career was made possible by the support of his wife, Barbara, and their children, David Jr. and Jennifer. The Command Sergeant Major's family bore the difficulties and accepted the challenges posed to military dependents. The Rabon's sacrifices were compounded by the misfortune of losing their son in a motorcycle accident while the family was stationed in Germany in 1995. The loss of a child is most difficult but worse when one is far from home and family.

The Rabons have held together. Without a doubt, the family's unity and strength, in addition to traditional values and the Command Sergeant Major's guidance, have enabled them to endure. The Rabons have been continually dedicated to serving the communities they have come in contact with through the Command Sergeant Major's service. Command Sergeant Major Rabon, himself, has taken special interest in coordinating Asian Pacific American activities.

As the Command Sergeant Major's military career nears conclusion, he and his wife have made plans to retire to Fort Walton Beach, FL. They look forward to living near their daughter, Jennifer, who is a special agent for the Department of Defense at Eglin Air Force Base.

Once again, to Command Sgt. Maj. David Rabon, his wife, Barbara, and daughter, Jennifer, I send best wishes from the people of Guam. It is well known that NCO's are "the backbone of the Army," the leaders of soldiers, I can think of no finer teacher of leadership than a good leader like Command Sgt. Maj. David Rabon. Guam is proud of him and he is a great representative of what our people can do.

THREE GIANTS OF THE LAW

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, criticism of both public and private institutions

is a vital part of democracy, but there are times when we as a society err on the side of excessive negativism, with the danger that the important contributions institutions make to the quality of our life can be overlooked.

An example of this is the current mood of ridiculing the legal profession. In the welter of legitimate criticisms that are made in the media and elsewhere about mistakes that lawyers make, the extraordinarily important role that lawyers play in fighting for some element of fairness in our society is sometimes lost.

In the Boston Globe on Monday, April 17, Professor Charles Ogletree, Jr. of Harvard Law School published an eloquent and thoughtful essay about the role of three of his former Harvard Law School colleagues who, tragically, all passed away last month.

Professor Ogletree's moving tribute to Gary Bellow, Abram Chayes and James Vorenberg serves two important purposes. First, it highlights the valuable work all three of these very dedicated, highly talented public spirited men did to make our society a fairer one. And in doing that, Professor Ogletree also highlights how the law at its best—and each of these three men represented that ideal—enhances the quality of our life as a civilized people.

It is entirely appropriate that Professor Ogletree wrote this article, because he embodies the tradition and moral leadership through the practice and teaching of law that these three extraordinary men exemplified. Because it is important that we as public policy makers strive constantly to vindicate the values that Gary Bellow, Abe Chayes and Jim Vorenberg worked so hard for during their lifetimes, because Charles Ogletree so well conveys this point, I submit his article to be printed in the RECORD.

[From the Boston Globe, Apr. 17, 2000]

#### Giants of Law

(By Charles J. Ogletree, Jr.)

Three giants in the legal education reform movement died this past week. Gary Bellow, Abram Chayes, and James Vorenberg have left indelible marks on the profession and have been instrumental in initiating reform that will continue to have an impact well into the 21st century.

While they are known for being scholars and gifted teachers at Harvard Law School, their contributions are much broader, and they have touched the lives of generations.

Although they spent more than 30 years as exceptional teachers, they spent an equal amount of time as public interest advocates. Bellow is known for his remarkable string of acquittals as a public defender in Washington. He represented Cesar Chavez and the migrant farm workers in California as they fought to reduce the use of life-threatening pesticides and to press for a livable wage. Bellow's success drew the wrath of then-Governor Ronald Reagan. His work ultimately led to severe restrictions on the type of cases that legal service attorneys could accept in representing poor people.

Vorenberg's ground-breaking work as a Watergate prosecutor was an important affirmation of the principle that no person is above the law and today is a marker for public prosecutors functioning as public servants.

Chayes over the past two years represented the nation of Namibia before the International Court of Justice. He also represented Kosovo refugees in an action claiming that government-led forces engaged in genocide, war crimes, and human-rights violations.

Their work in the courtrooms of the nation and the world, however, does not adequately illustrate their lasting contributions to our legal system. Bellow pioneered the clinical legal education movement in the early 1970s. His idea was that, with new constitutional changes requiring that indigents accused of criminal violations receive free attorneys, well-trained and energetic law students could serve in this effort. As a result of his vision, thousands of law students have provided quality legal representation to poor people in civil and criminal cases throughout Massachusetts and the nation.

Bellow's casebook, "Lawyering Process," is the seminal clinical legal education textbook used today. It took the unprecedented approach of using social science literature and empirical research to explain the complexities of the legal process, and it is unparalleled in its breadth and depth.

Chayes was a pioneer in the field of international law, human rights advocacy, and peaceful conflict resolution. He began teaching and writing in these areas shortly after World War II and served as an adviser and consultant to several American presidents, including John Kennedy during the Cuban missile crisis. He helped policy makers realize that our salvation as a nation is inextricably tied to our willingness to see world progress as a global challenge, with cooperation and conciliation as an integral element. Chayes trained many foreign lawyers, including some who have returned to their countries and implemented democratic reforms that facilitated unfettered elections, economic productivity, and the protection of minority rights, without compromising principles of national sovereignty. His effort over the past 50 years stands as a testament that one person, fully committed to democracy and peace, can make a difference.

Vorenberg's impact influenced not only legal education but also law reform in communities nationally. His commitment to justice and equality started early as he witnessed his father and grandfather hiring black employees at Gilchrist's, the Boston department store, during a time when few accepted the principle of hiring minorities. He also quietly influenced improved relationships between law enforcement officials and minority communities.

While Vorenberg's role in developing the Kerner Commission Report is well known, his role in creating the Center for Criminal Justice at Harvard Law School to help eliminate distrust between police and minority community members is less publicized. He convened meetings of some of the nation's police chiefs in the early 1970s and had them examine ways to address crime control, while respecting the individual liberties of an increasingly diverse population.

While it was not called community policing then, Vorenberg's efforts were designed to make police chiefs implement programs that helped them to better understand the communities they served, and to work with clergy, community leaders, and youth, to prevent crime. Former police chiefs like Lee P. Brown, of Houston and New York, Joe McNamara of Santa Clara, Calif., and Thomas Gilmore, the first African-American sheriff in Lowndes County, Ala., credit their visits to Harvard and consultations with Vorenberg and others for the success in vastly improving police and community relations following the turbulence of the 1980s.

The lasting impact of Vorenberg's work with police chiefs can be seen in the success of cities like Boston and San Diego, and it offers a blueprint for innovation in turbulent cities like New York and Los Angeles.

The accomplishments of these three giants cannot be adequately recounted without acknowledging the significant contributions of

their spouses and partners, talented women in their own right. Jeanne Charn was with Bellow every step of the way in creating the Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center over the last two decades, and she now serves as director of the center, providing legal assistance to a bilingual and the multicultural population of poor people in Massachusetts.

Antonia Chayes joined her husband in resolving international disputes and advising foreign leaders through the Conflict Management Group, an internationally recognized dispute resolution institute that continues to help world leaders and nongovernmental organizations.

Betty Vorenberg traveled the world with her husband promoting individual liberty and civil rights, particularly for women and children, while also playing an active role in the juvenile justice reform movement in Massachusetts.

The love of the law and passion for teaching the next generation of social engineers was evident even in their final moments. Vorenberg was fatally stricken after teaching one of his classes, and Bellow suffered heart failure en route to class. These educators were the epitome of humility and selflessness. There will not be three like them to pass this way again.

HUGH T. MURRAY FAMILY

HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently received a letter from my constituent, Iola B. Murray, regarding an error in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of October 19, 1971. To correct the historical record for her family I include the statement as it should have appeared at that time.

HUGH T. MURRAY FAMILY

Mr. MCKAY. Mr. Speaker, I would like at this time to pay special tribute to the Hugh T. Murray family of West Point, Utah, for special achievement in the field of Scouting. The Murrays have set an outstanding example for all of us with each of the family's six sons achieving the Eagle Scout award and with the four youngest receiving this award on the same night at a special court of honor.

Dean, 19; Paul, 17; David, 16; and Joel, 13, were presented with their Eagle awards on the night of June 27 of this year with two older Eagle Scout brothers, John, 25, and Thomas, 23, participating in the special ceremony. In this day and age of the dropout, it is heartening to see young men who still care—young men who see value in religion, family life and in serving their community. I pay tribute to the Murray family and to the scouting program for the sense of responsibility it provides for young men in America today.

The Murrays have been blessed with eight fine children including two daughters, Mabel Ann and Julie Kay. It was a goal of the entire family to see that all six sons become Eagle Scouts and this goal was reached when the four youngest sons received their individual Eagle awards at the same time.

The six Eagle Scouts of the Murray family have all been actively engaged in school, church, and community activities. Twenty-five-year-old John recently received his master's degree in electrical engineering from Brigham Young University. He was a member of the National Honor Society, a high school athlete and has served a mission for

his church. He is married to Bonnie Hart and has a year old son.

Twenty-three-year-old Thomas is a senior at Weber State College. He too has served a mission for his church and has served in student government while in college. He is leader of an Explorer Post and took his young men to the National Explorer Olympics where they won the basketball title.

Nineteen-year-old Dean is now serving on a mission for the Latter-day Saints Church and was attending Weber State College prior to that church call. He participated in athletics in high school and in college and has worked with young men in scouting and athletics. He played on the Explorer Olympics national champion basketball team.

Seventeen-year-old Paul is now a senior at Clearfield High School where he lettered in wrestling and track. He has been active in scouting and church work. He also played on the National Explorer Olympics basketball championship team.

Sixteen-year-old David is a junior at Clearfield High School where he is actively engaged in sports. He has also been a leader in church activities and in scouting and was also on the Explorer Olympics national champion basketball team. He has been president of his Venturer and Explorer posts.

Thirteen-year-old Joel is the youngest of the six brothers and a ninth grader at North Davis Junior High School. He enjoys sports and scouting and is now a patrol leader. He has been an active leader in his church and has won several awards.

I am happy to call to the attention of the Members of the House the accomplishments of the Murray family. I would like to commend Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Murray for the outstanding example they have set, as parents, for all of us. And I also commend the Murray sons and daughters for their genuine interest and involvement in church, school, and community.

RECOGNIZING RABBI MARC SCHNEIER AND THE FOUNDATION FOR ETHNIC UNDERSTANDING

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contribution of The Foundation for Ethnic Understanding, under the strong leadership of Rabbi Marc Schneier. The Foundation has over the past ten years worked to highlight the need for strengthening relations between Jewish-Americans and African-Americans. In doing so, the Foundation has reminded Americans of the strength that comes from sharing our similarities as well as our differences, while reminding us all of the pain endured by our nation during the Civil Rights Movement, and the ultimate success of those efforts.

On April 4th, the 32nd anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., members of Congress and leaders of both the African-American and Jewish-American communities gathered in the halls of Congress to pay tribute to the legacy of Dr. King. Even as we paid tribute to this hero of the Civil Rights Movement, we joined the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding in honoring two members of Congress, my colleagues, Congresswoman NITA LOWEY from New York and Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE from Texas. Both

of these leaders deserve our greatest admiration for their commitment to ensuring that justice and liberty will prevail within our nation.

Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Schneier, The Foundation for Ethnic Understanding, and Representatives LOWEY and JACKSON-LEE deserved to be honored for keeping the memory and dream of Dr. King alive. Together, they have—while perhaps less dramatically, but with equal success—challenged the system of segregation that has now given way to a better America.

CELEBRATING THE 65TH BIRTHDAY OF JEREMIAH "DERRY" HEGARTY

**HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, on April 18th, 2000, family, friends and admirers gathered to celebrate the 65th birthday of Jeremiah "Derry" Hegarty, as well as his 35-year love affair with his community, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

I have known Derry Hegarty for many years, and it is hard to recall a more engaging personality. He came to this country from Drinagh East, County Cork, Ireland in 1965 and became Purchasing Manager for a local manufacturing company. Just seven years later, he purchased a pub on Milwaukee's west side. It didn't take long for the entrepreneurial Irishman to put his stamp on the place.

He transformed this small corner tavern into something closer to what he remembered from home. Slowly and surely, Derry's became a virtual community center. It is a place to go for the opening of the baseball season. It is a comfortable and entertaining spot to watch a Green Bay Packer game. Friends gather here spontaneously. Groups and organizations hold their meetings here. It is the site of receptions, fundraisers and election night parties. It is a very popular location, and its popularity can be traced to a factor more important than tasty food and refreshing beverages. Derry's is Derry.

Behind this mild mannered, soft spoken and friendly man is an individual of surprising extremes. If you were to poll the people who know him best, you would hear nothing moderate . . . nothing halfway. You would hear of his seemingly tireless efforts on behalf of his church. You would be told of his enormous generosity of time and spirit in helping to bring Milwaukee's Irish Cultural and Heritage Center to life. You would hear of his fierce loyalty to his friends and their causes.

Just as Derry's is far more than a simple corner pub, Derry himself is well more than a seasoned proprietor. He is a counselor. He is an advisor. He is a civic leader. He is a philanthropist. He is a confidant.

He is one more thing, I think, that is even more important than all of those. He is a friend.

They say that the ancient Norman invaders of Ireland became "more Irish than the Irish." Derry Hegarty is more a Milwaukeean than most who were raised here. He is entwined in our history and has made his mark on our future.

Happy Birthday, Derry, and thank you.

DESIREA HOLTON RECEIVES GOLD AWARD

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the accomplishment of one of Colorado's youth, Desirea Holton. Desirea is a member of Senior Girl Scout Troop 81 in Delta, Colorado. On May 20, 2000, ceremonies will take place to honor Ms. Holton's achievement of earning the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award possible for a Girl Scout to earn. In order to earn the award, a Girl Scout must meet five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. Desirea's project, "Hair Today: Gone Tomorrow," encompasses all of those things. Her project brought community awareness to the issue of juvenile hair loss. Desirea developed an informational brochure, which she distributed to local salons in an effort to increase hair donations. She also organized a day where individuals interested in donating their hair could receive a free haircut and styling.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Desirea Holton on her achievement. Due to Ms. Holton's dedicated service, it is clear that Colorado is a better place.

IN HONOR OF THE ANNUAL BAYONNE HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY OBSERVANCE

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Annual Bayonne Holocaust Remembrance Day Observance.

This is not just a day to remember the tragedy of the Holocaust, it is also a day to celebrate the special commitment the Jewish community has to its heritage and the preservation of Jewish identity.

The ceremony will feature speaker Norman Salsitz, a Holocaust survivor himself. He was born in Kolbuszowa, Poland, the youngest of nine children. During the war, he was confined to a ghetto and three labor camps, escaping on several occasions, and eventually commanding a Jewish partisan group in southern Poland. Later, he joined the Polish army and rose to the rank of colonel.

Germans murdered Norman Salsitz's mother and sisters, and their husbands and children. He witnessed the shooting of his father. These tragic events have contributed to his unwavering commitment to the Jewish community and its legacy.

For many years, Norman Salsitz has participated in numerous and diverse Jewish organizations, such as Israeli Bonds, United Jewish Appeal, and Jewish Fighters and Partisans. He is an executive board member of the National Federation of Holocaust Survivors. He has authored two books: *Against All Odds: A Tale of Two Survivors*, co-authored by his wife; and *A Jewish Boyhood in Poland: Remembering Kolbuszowa*.

Proclamations will be made by Mayor Joseph V. Doria, Jr., the honorary chairman of the event. This year's event is dedicated to the memory of Colonel Anthony Podbielski, a longtime and active member of the committee.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Observance; and I ask that we, too, remember the Holocaust.

HONORING DR. FRANKLIN E. KAMENY AND THE GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize two Washington, D.C. institutions that have been in the forefront of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered civil rights movement, and that I have the distinct honor and pleasure of representing in this body: the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. (GLAA), the oldest continuously active gay and lesbian rights organization in the United States and its charter member, Dr. Franklin E. Kameny.

Since its founding in April 1971, GLAA has been a respected and persistent advocate in District politics tirelessly asserting equal rights and social equality for lesbians and gay men living in the city. In the last two years, its advocacy with the city government helped reestablish an independent Office of Human Rights and the Citizen Complaint Review Board; implementation of a unique identifier system for reporting cases of HIV/AIDS to help to protect the privacy of people who test positive for HIV; and the establishment of an antiharassment policy by the District of Columbia Public Schools.

On April 27, GLAA held its 29th Anniversary Reception honoring the year 2000 recipients of its Distinguished Service Awards: Steve Block of the American Civil Liberties Union/National Capital Area; Jeffrey Berman of the Public Defender Service; local and international gay activist Barrett L. Brick; Food and Friends; Dr. Patricia Hawkins, Associate Director of the Whitman Walker Clinic; and Jessica Xavier, a local and national transgendered activist. GLAA also celebrated Frank Kameny's 75th Birthday.

Dr. Kameny's resume reflects the history of the gay and lesbian movement in the District of Columbia. He remains an indefatigable and outspoken gay activist. Dr. Kameny holds a BS in Physics from Queens College and an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Astronomy from Harvard University.

In 1957, Dr. Kameny began an 18-year struggle to end the civil service ban on the federal employment of gay men and lesbians that achieved success in 1975 and was recently formalized by President Clinton with Executive Order 13087. In 1961, Dr. Kameny founded the Mattachine Society of Washington, the first local gay and lesbian organization in the District. The following year, he initiated the ongoing effort to lift the ban on gay men and lesbians in the military.

By 1962, Dr. Kameny had become the nationally recognized authority on security clear-

ances for lesbians and gay men. His efforts resulted in lifting of the absolute ban on gay and lesbian security clearances in 1980, which President Clinton made formal with Executive Order 12968. In 1965, Dr. Kameny organized the first lesbian and gay demonstration at the White House; and a year before the "Stonewall Rebellion" in New York City in 1968, he coined the slogan "Gay Is Good."

In 1971, Dr. Kameny ran for Congress in the District of Columbia, the first openly gay person to seek such an office in the country. His campaign committee became the nucleus of the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. He subsequently helped draft the D.C. Human Rights Law, one of the strongest civil rights laws in the country, which codified gay and lesbian civil rights in the District.

Dr. Kameny's 10 year fight to have homosexuality removed from the American Psychiatric Association's classification as a mental illness succeeded in 1973. He was a founding member of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (1973), the Gay Rights National Lobby (1975), which ultimately became the Human Rights Campaign, and the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club (1976).

Dr. Kameny became D.C.'s first openly gay municipal appointee when Mayor Washington appointed him to the Human Rights Commission (1975). He drafted the legislation which repealed the D.C. Sodomy Law in 1993.

Dr. Kameny continues to be a revered and effective activist. He lectures, writes, and testifies on behalf of gay and lesbian issues. He has become the institutional memory of D.C.'s gay and lesbian rights movement.

I ask the House to join me in congratulating the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance and Dr. Franklin E. Kameny.

HONORING DR. WILLIAM LARKIN

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I honor Dr. William Larkin, who is retiring as superintendent of the Greenfield, Wisconsin School District after 40 years as an educator.

Dr. Larkin began his career as a classroom teacher. Through his hard work, and genuine concern for his students, he became an assistant principal, then junior high school principal, and high school principal. He spent 10 years as assistant superintendent for Milwaukee Public Schools, before becoming superintendent of the Monona Grove School District, and finally superintendent of the Greenfield School District, where he has served for the last 7 years.

But Bill's commitment to education was not confined to the classroom or the superintendent's office. Besides working as an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Dr. Larkin has contributed his considerable talents to the North American International Baccalaureate Board of Directors, the College Board of Academic Affairs Board, and the College Board of School-University Partnership Board.

Dr. Larkin's diligence in making the world around him a better place has taken many forms over the years. In his spare time, he

has shown his dedication to his community as Greenfield Chamber of Commerce President, and as chair of the North Central Association Evaluation team for the Department of Defense in South Korea, England, and the Netherlands.

And so it is my great pleasure to join with his family and friends, as well as all of the students whose lives he has touched, in wishing Dr. William Larkin a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY COLLINS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize an exceptional man, Danny Collins. Despite challenges, Danny overcame many of them and for 11 years has been a skillful weaver at Mountain Valley Textiles. I have known Danny for over 30 years and can attest to what a fine individual he is. Danny's work ethic and his strength stand out in our community. Although Danny now faces another challenge with the loss of his beloved father, Bud, Danny will pull through. Danny's family is strong and supportive and very, very proud of Danny.

The retiring of Denver Bronco's great quarterback, John Elway, motivated Danny to create several mementos to say good-bye to John Elway and sent them to John's family. All of the items have the number seven on them and are orange, blue and white. Danny was proud of his work in honor of Mr. Elway.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Danny Collins, a wonderful human being. His talent and love of life brings him many admirers.

IN HONOR OF MARY ANN ROSWAL  
ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 35  
YEARS OF TEACHING

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mary Ann Roswal on her retirement after 35 years of teaching.

It is said that teaching another something of value takes compassion, understanding and patience; and absent these virtues, the simple process of imparting knowledge can become strained and cumbersome, leaving both teacher and pupil estranged, unable to truly learn from each other. In honoring Mary Ann Roswal today, I honor the virtues that allow teachers to become great teachers.

For 35 years, Mary Ann Roswal taught English at Union Hill High School in Union City, New Jersey. And for 35 years, she touched the lives of her students in a way that her years of dedication cannot measure. As my teacher, she imparted to me the knowledge that language is a profound tool for understanding the world, and a necessary instrument in realizing one's full potential as a human being. I am proud to say that I learned this then; I accept this now; and I have done my best to impart this to others.

It is with great honor that I remember the lessons of yesterday—the lessons taught, and those who taught them. It is my history, and I am thankful that Mary Ann Roswal made it a history worth remembering, worth honoring.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me as I honor a great teacher I admire and respect.

A TRIBUTE TO STUDENTS FROM  
MCALLEN MEMORIAL HIGH  
SCHOOL

**HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on May 6–8, 2000 more than 1200 students from across the United States will be in Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. I am proud to announce that the class from McAllen Memorial High School from McAllen will represent the state of Texas in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals, and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The names of the students are: Melinda Acuna, Cassie Baumeister, Paul Bongat, Amy Booth, Emily Dyer, Brandon Garcia, Gabriela Gonzalez, Amber Hausenfluck, Jason Jarvis, Kyle Jones, Anita Manoharan, Suleima Mohamed, Taylor Mohel, George Morgan, Raquel Pacheco, Angela Perez, Blythe Selman, Matt Sheinberg, Jane Springmeyer, Veronica Vela, Summer West. I would also like to recognize their teacher, LeAnna Morse, whose tireless efforts have contributed greatly to the success of the class.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges. The students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges representing various regions of the country and a variety of appropriate professional fields. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the simulated congressional committee. The judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People . . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. The program provides students with a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government. Members of Congress and their staff enhance the program by discussing current constitutional issues with students and teachers and by participating in other educational activities.

The class from McAllen Memorial High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Washington, DC. I wish these young

“constitutional experts” the best of luck at the We the People . . . national finals, and my staff and I look forward to greeting them when they visit Capitol Hill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OMNIBUS  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAX IN-  
CENTIVE RECOVERY ACT OF 2000

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Omnibus District of Columbia Tax Incentive Recovery Act. Congress was out of session on the day of the deadline for filing federal taxes, when I had wanted to introduce the D.C. Tax Package. Therefore, on the first day the House returns, I introduce the Omnibus District of Columbia Tax Incentive Recovery Act. The legislation builds on federal tax incentives Congress has already passed here to produce market-induced residential and business stability and growth. This bill is necessary to assure even the sustained stability, let alone real economic growth, that still eludes the District economy and the city government. This federal tax package gives the city the tools it needs to produce a self-sufficient economy. After the financial collapse of the 1990s, and as the control board passes from the scene, the Congress has an obligation to help the city do what is necessary to increase its own economic output on its own.

The city does not have that capacity today. Ominously, the District lacks the essential safety valve of other large cities—a state to fall back on in times of economic downturn. The economic forecasters agree that D.C. has reached the height of its economic output for this period and will experience four straight years of declining economic output after 2001, largely because its economic boost has come primarily from temporary construction jobs and from jobs held primarily by commuters. The surpluses that brightened the city's hopes have already declined: 1997, \$185 million; 1998, \$445 million, an artificial increase resulting from one-time federal contributions; 1999, \$105 million. The District's top two private sectors—hotels and health care—actually lost jobs, and retail continues to shrink. The city's unemployment rate is 5.7% compared with 3.0% in Maryland and 2.7% in Virginia. This picture resembles other large cities in the United States. However, none survives on city-generated revenues alone, nor could it do so. State assistance is necessary not only to meet current expenses, but also to make up for sharply diminished tax bases in every major American city.

The District is not requesting similar subsidies or federal financial assistance. We believe that the federal tax credit incentive approach already approved by Congress that is already having substantial success here is the key to permanent stability. Tax credits leverage the private sector rather than the government to do the job of growing the economy and return many times the revenue foregone by the federal government.

The Omnibus Tax Package I am introducing today has four parts. They are: (1) the District of Columbia Non-Resident Tax Credit Act that would cost commuters nothing but would fairly

spread the cost of the services used by federal and other employees, who return to the suburbs untaxed the overwhelming majority of the income earned here; (2) the District of Columbia City-Wide Enterprise Zone Act, to spread to all neighborhoods and businesses tax incentives that have brought substantial benefits to communities but with the unintended effect of affording an unfair and arbitrary advantage to some neighborhoods and businesses over their competitors; (3) the District of Columbia Economic Recovery Act, affording a progressive 15% flat tax to residents in order to draw and maintain taxpayers; and (4) the District of Columbia \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit Act, to make permanent the tax incentive that is largely responsible for new homebuyers and for maintaining and attracting taxpayers to the city.

TITLE I: THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NON-RESIDENT TAX  
CREDIT ACT

Not only do suburbanites carry home two-thirds of all the income generated in the District. They leave behind most of the damage that occurs to many services, especially roads and other infrastructure, while making free use of many of the same services that D.C. taxpayers can obtain only by paying for them. Large cities generally recoup at least some of these service costs in order to avoid overwhelming the tax base of cities, which are far less prosperous than the regional areas where suburban service users reside.

For years, the District has sought some reimbursement for the heavy toll in services commuters use. Neither the obvious unfairness, nor even the city's insolvency and increasing need for reimbursement for the services provided, has produced any change.

The District's future economic prospects necessitate a fresh look at how to assure that the city gets its fair share of revenue in a region experiencing large and sustained growth while its core city does not generate sufficient revenue to assure its economic viability. The matter is no longer only a home rule issue or a services issue. Today, it is a fundamental needs issue to assure a viable capital.

The city gave up the federal payment in return for a takeover of state functions as the only way out of its insolvency. The old federal payment was almost never increased and, therefore, declined in value each year. A flat payment was a seriously antiquated and obsolete way for the federal government to meet its financial responsibility to help maintain a capital city. The 1997 Revitalization Act provides an automatic increase by assuming at least some of the most costly and fastest rising state costs. In spite of the splendid national economy, without the Revitalization Act takeover of some state costs, D.C. would still be insolvent, the city would not have an investment grade bond rating, and the control board would not be on its way out.

The tax credit is necessary because even the substantial relief afforded by the Revitalization Act has not left the District able to support itself in the long run. The cold reality is that neither the present robust economy nor the District's own exemplary efforts are doing enough, or can do enough, to assure a permanent recovery.

Three reasons account for this dilemma: (1) There simply are not enough taxpaying residents and businesses here now; it will take many years to make up for the shortfall, and the sufficient business and residential growth

may not occur at all if incentives to make the city more competitive with the suburbs are not enacted; (2) expenditures are inexorably rising faster than revenues; and (3) years of disinvestment in the services provided to residents and especially children, in infrastructure and in basic neighborhood amenities require immediate and substantial funds to hold and attract businesses and residents.

The new tax credit approach we offer today has the twin advantage of greater efficiency and greater reliance on approaches already sanctioned by Congress: (1) Congress has already approved tax credits for the District and increasingly uses tax credits nationally as a tool; (2) a federal tax credit is the fairest way to recoup the cost of services because most of the commuters are federal employees, most of the services rendered to non-residents are due to the federal presence, and most of the land taken off the tax rolls is federal land; (3) a tax credit would spread the obligations of securing a viable economy in the nation's capital to the entire country; (4) the tax credit is set at 2%, the average of non-resident taxes in the country; and (5) a standard commuter tax, other taxes, or other subsidies, are all politically impossible today, while the region has always supported the federal payment, a federal solution.

The tax credit would net the District \$400 million the first year, and, unlike the flat federal payment would automatically rise every year because incomes increase every year. The take-home pay of commuters would not change because the 2% of their salary that would otherwise go to the federal government would instead transfer to the D.C. government (thereby also eliminating any new administrative burden).

TITLE II: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY-WIDE ENTERPRISE ZONE

Several extraordinarily valuable enterprise zone tax benefits constitute the major financial tools that have been used for business revival and new commercial and office construction in the city. Among the most successful have been the wage tax credit allowing an employer a 20% credit for the first \$15,000 of an employee's income if that employee is a D.C. resident. This credit not only helps attract and retain businesses, it also helps to correct the severe imbalance that allows two-thirds of the jobs in the city to go to commuters. Another new benefit, the elimination of capital gains altogether, is expanding and creating businesses in many city neighborhoods and downtown. The success of zero capital gains has already led the Senate to make this provision city-wide. A third tax incentive, tax exemption for up to \$15 million in bonds, is fueling much of the construction boom the city is experiencing, and construction alone accounts for the major portion of the increased economic output of the District today.

However, because the District is small and compact, multiple enterprise zones have had unintended effects. High income university students with little personal income have brought Georgetown and Foggy Bottom businesses within the zone, but businesses in struggling areas of Ward 5 do not qualify. This title would eliminate an unearned advantage that forces competition among our already depleted pool of businesses instead of between those in and outside of the District.

The solution is to designate the District of Columbia itself an enterprise zone. Only this

solution will erase indefensible distinctions that tear neighborhoods apart and help some D.C. businesses, neighborhoods and residents over others that are similarly situated. The citywide zone solution also draws upon the criterion of poverty already in the law because the present law requires a 20% residential zone poverty rate for businesses to receive the tax benefits, and a 10% poverty rate to qualify for capital gains tax elimination. Since the poverty rate for the District is 22%, it makes sense to use the city-wide poverty rate to designate the entire city an enterprise zone.

The \$5,000 Homebuyer Tax Credit was always citywide and has proved so successful that the Senate has tried to raise the income limit (see below). The citywide success of the Homebuyer Credit shows highly effective tax breaks can and should be used to encourage the economy throughout the city.

TITLE III: D.C. ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT (DCERA)

As valuable as the tax credits the District has achieved are, it is the one that the city has not yet achieved that has consistently provoked the greatest excitement and would have the greatest effect. There is general agreement that the 15% Progressive Flat Tax (PFT) would promote a dramatic increase in residents and would stop taxpayer flight altogether. A residential increase in indispensable to the survival of this city. The control board conservatively estimates the need for an increase of 100,000 residents to support city government services unattainable under present conditions.

The 15% progressive flat tax works this way: After affording sharp increases in the traditional standard deduction and personal exemption, a uniform rate of 15% would be applied progressively up the income scale to reduce a resident's tax liability—from approximately 80% reduction to a one-third reduction in taxes owed, depending on income. The lower the income, the greater the tax reduction. The DCERA would take 50% of D.C. residents off of the tax rolls altogether. The uniform rate also would rescue the remaining taxpayers from bracket creep, and assure that income increases resulting from the tax cut are not then significantly taxed away.

I first introduced the Progressive Flat Tax in the 104th Congress. I remain persistent not only because of the city's continuing and serious taxpayer deficit, but particularly because of the strong support I have received for the PFT from congressional leadership. They include Senate Majority Leader TRENT LOTT (R-MS), who sponsored the first-ever D.C. town meeting in the Senate and Senator CONNIE MACK (R-FL), Chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, and other members, who remain strong supporters of the PFT.

TITLE IV: THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA \$5000 HOMEBUYER CREDIT ACT

This title would make permanent the \$5,000 Homebuyer Credit, perhaps the most successful economic stimulus in the city's history. It is chiefly responsible for stemming the flight that almost destroyed the city's tax base during the 1980s and during the financial crisis and insolvency of the 1990s. The credit offers significant evidence that a tightly targeted tax incentive can have a major turn around effect on a specific problem confronting a city.

The credit has been so successful that we have recommended that states do the same for the many large cities that are rapidly losing taxpayers. In its first year, despite the city's fi-

nancial problems and damaged reputation, the credit made the District first in home sales increases in the United States. According to an independent study by the Greater Washington Research Center, 70% of D.C. homebuyers have used the credit, and 51% purchased homes because of the credit.

Last Year, the Senate was so impressed with the Homebuyer Credit results that it increased the income limits for joint filers from \$130,000 to \$180,000. The limit for individual filers is \$90,000. This increase was passed by the House and Senate, but no omnibus tax bill was enacted last year. Nevertheless, the Senate action demonstrates congressional acknowledgment of the effectiveness of tax credits in general and of the \$5,000 homebuyer credit in particular. Fannie Mae has converted the credit into up-front money towards the purchase of a home, affording the credit significantly greater value to the individual.

The \$5,000 homebuyer credit proved itself so quickly and so well that I have been able to get it repeatedly extended by Congress. The credit is similar to the PFT in its magnet effect. Until the PFT is enacted, the \$5,000 credit is minimally necessary if the city is to have any chance of increasing its still small and depleted tax base. The credit has proved itself so definitively that to get the full effect, it should be enacted permanently.

TRIBUTE TO LUE IDA HILL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I commend the 100th birthday of Lue Ida Hill from Swanton, Ohio. This remarkable woman lives a life that celebrates every day as a gift, every sunrise as the herald of new opportunities.

When Mrs. Hill referred to her centennial birthday as "just another day", she does so not to comment on the routine of life, the monotony of "just another day", she sets an example to us all that everyday, indeed, every moment, ought to be a cause for celebration. For by celebrating, we give thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us by God.

Mrs. Hill has never known what most of us call retirement, for she continues to keep herself busy by helping her neighbors and bringing joy to those around her. With a bow in her hair, a tradition she began while working as a butcher, she was careening about her home in a motorcycle sidecar just months before her birthday.

Lue Ida is a first class woman from a first class community. She's never stopped working, whether it was at the farm helping out with the plowing or mending shirts for Arizona State University students. She's done it all with a gracious and genuine smile. Now, with 68 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, Lue Ida keeps the fellow residents of the Harborside Healthcare Facility hopping. There, they refer to her as a social butterfly, playing cards and chatting with her friends and neighbors.

If only we could all be half the "butterfly" Lue Ida is. Bringing happiness to those around us, joy to our loved ones, and recognizing the gift of what we have instead of complaining for what we don't.

Our entire community wishes to extend its warmest and most caring congratulations to Lue Ida Hill on the attainment of her 100th year. Few Americans reach this incredible life pinnacle. May God bless Lue Ida and keep her as America and the world move toward the new millennium. She is a legendary teacher to us all.

**FRIENDS OF MUSTANGS RECEIVES  
THE "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"  
AWARD**

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an exceptional group, the Friends of the Mustangs group, who were honored by the Bureau of Land Management with the "Making a Difference" award. The BLM selected the Friends of the Mustangs group because of their dedication to Colorado and to its outdoors.

For the past 17 years, the Friends of the Mustangs group have volunteered and managed the BLM's Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Area. There, they saved the BLM over \$20,000 by volunteering over 2,500 hours, maintained the grounds, fixing fences and trails. They also performed pre-adoption inspections. As a result, the Friends of the Mustangs group has played an integral role in managing wild horses.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious why the Friends of the Mustangs group was chosen for the "Making a Difference" award. I think we owe them a debt of gratitude for their service and dedication to Colorado and to its outdoors.

**HONORING MR. DONALD ALMQUIST**

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I honor my friend, Mr. Donald Almquist, who is retiring after serving on the School Board in Greenfield, Wisconsin for 23 years. Don was the School Board president for eight years, and has also served as vice-president, and as treasurer.

After retiring from a lengthy career in the Marine Corps, Don settled down in Greenfield where he has been an outstanding member of the community ever since. His work with such civic organizations as the Greenfield Lions Club, Greenfield Historical Society, American Legion, Boy Scouts of America, Greenfield Little League, and Vietnam Veterans of America have helped to make his community a better place to live.

Over the past 23 years, Don has left his mark on the quality of education in Greenfield. He has initiated many programs for Greenfield students including a school breakfast program, and a Junior ROTC program. He was also instrumental in beginning the filming of School Board meetings for cable television broadcasting.

Though this is his second retirement, Don will certainly have no trouble keeping himself

busy. While he will no longer be a member of Greenfield's school board, he will continue his public service as the city's 4th district alderman, and president of the Common Council. He will also remain active in the Lion's Club, as well as the Education Scholarship Foundation, and a number of other community organizations.

Don has received many awards from the Greenfield Lion's Club including: The President's Award, the Governor's Award, and the Melvin Jones Fellow Award. He was also honored with the 1996 Achievement Award as one of Wisconsin's Outstanding Vietnam Veterans.

And so it is my great pleasure to extend my gratitude to my good friend Donald Almquist for his years of service, and my congratulations to him and his wife, Beverly, on a well deserved retirement.

**IN HONOR OF THE UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF HUDSON COUNTY EIGHTH ANNUAL "OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD" DINNER DANCE**

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the United Cerebral Palsy of Hudson County Eighth Annual "Outstanding Achievement Award" Dinner Dance.

Since 1951, United Cerebral Palsy (UPC) of Hudson County has had one mission: "To advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with disabilities." At UPC of Hudson County, this is more than a mission, it is a cerebral way of life. And the annual "Outstanding Achievement Award" honors those who have truly embraced this way of life, giving of themselves in a profoundly selfless and compassionate manner.

This year there are three such individuals, and I am proud to honor them as well. I honor them for their compassion; I honor them for their dedication; and I applaud them for what they have done for people with disabilities.

Henry Sanchez, Migdalia Viole, and Vincent J. Bottino were chosen by UPC of Hudson County to receive the "Outstanding Achievement Award" because they exemplify the strength of character and sense of purpose necessary to become outstanding community leaders. Hudson County has benefited enormously from their very special contribution to the community.

I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor these extraordinary individuals for their unparalleled commitment to bettering the lives of people with disabilities. Congratulations to this year's "Outstanding Achievement Award" winners.

**BLOOMFIELD CITIZENS COUNCIL  
AWARDS**

**HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a number of Pittsburgh residents who will be

honored on May 6 with Bloomfield Citizens Council Awards. Every year, the Bloomfield Citizens Council presents these awards as a way of recognizing members of the community who have made a significant contribution to the quality of life in Bloomfield. I would like to take this opportunity to mention the 2000 award recipients and commend them for their efforts to make Bloomfield a better place to live.

For their hard work, commitment, and enormous amount of volunteer time given for the love of the community and its children, members of the Immaculate Conception School Parent Teacher's Guild are receiving the Mary Cercone Outstanding Citizens Award. The members of the Guild being honored include: Nick and Amy Balestra, Tammy Bruno, Nancy Cherico, Beverly Helwich, Craig and Rosina Koziell, Janet Langer, Larry Lordeon, Frank and Renee Magliocco, Faye Parker, Ray Polk, Crystal Scullion, and Antonette Surmacy. This group of people is a symbol of the family values and the rich heritage of the Bloomfield community.

As president of the Immaculate Conception Christian Mothers for 38 years, Ann Scullin has earned the Neighborhood Loyalty Award. She has demonstrated a sincere dedication to the betterment of Bloomfield with the unselfish giving of her personal time and willingness to work with others as a true team player.

Patrick McGonigle is the 2000 recipient of the Community Commitment Award for this consistent willingness to assist the Bloomfield Citizens Council in its efforts to work for the betterment of Bloomfield. He has given his time to promoting the Bloomfield Halloween Parade and the Bloomfield Preservation Center.

This year, the Extra Mile Award is given to Jolene Owens. She has given a decade of service to the Bloomfield Citizens Council. She has improved the BCC through her constant willingness to volunteer and by successfully accomplishing every task she is assigned.

For her heroic actions in entering a burning building to alert the second and third floor tenants of a life-threatening fire, Mary Gratta is the recipient of the Heroism Award. She risked her own life in the interest of saving others.

Nick and Amy Balestra have won the Keeping Christ in Christmas Award for their front yard display of a large handmade manger.

For their creative Christmas decorations that added beauty to the community, George and Eleanor Sciuolo are receiving the Most Outstanding and Completely Decorated Home Award.

Russell and Leah Carlisle are given the Most Creative Design Award for their balanced, colorful Christmas decorations.

The recipients of this year's Bloomfield Citizens Council awards have all made significant contributions to the quality of life in Bloomfield and deserve recognition for their efforts. I commend them all, as well as the Bloomfield Citizens Council, for their dedication to their community.

NEW FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY IN  
INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE  
FORMER SOVIET UNION

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, functioning democracy in the newly emerging independent states of the former Soviet Union requires setting up new political institutions and developing the means of conducting the people's business. As we have seen in many of these countries, this is proving to be a challenge beyond the patience and political will of their leaders, particularly given the harsh economic conditions throughout the region. More often than not, responsible economic policies represent, in the short term, even greater hardships for the people whose support is essential if democracy and market economy are to be sustained in these countries.

In Ukraine this challenge was put to test earlier this year when the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament, was confronted with a serious political crisis over the selection of the Speaker and other leadership positions. The Leftist forces, though in the minority, have managed to control the parliament for the past 18 months, thwarting the majority's efforts to implement President Kuchma's legislative agenda.

A vivid description of how the leftist speaker, Oleksandr Tkachenko, thwarted the majority and the subsequent developments that lead to his ouster are provided in a report by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. In *Update on Ukraine*, February 24, 2000, Markian Bilynski writes.

Until January 21, the final day of the fourth parliamentary session, the Rada was presided over by a chairman whose political ambitions and sense of indispensability were matched only by his limitations. Oleksandr Tkachenko had been elected essentially by default 18 months earlier as elements within the Rada and beyond fought to prevent the chairmanship from falling into the hands of anyone harboring presidential ambitions. His eventual, somewhat surprise decision to run brought about a further politicization of the legislative process and was the principal reason behind the Rada's growing ineffectiveness. Tkachenko's final unabashed identification with the communist candidate—a fitting conclusion to what can only be described as a parody of an election campaign—represented an abandonment of any pretense at impartiality and irreversibly undermined his credibility as Rada chairman. At the same time, President Leonid Kuchma's re-election altered the broader political context within which the Rada had to operate to such an extent that Tkachenko was transformed from a largely compromise figure into an anachronism.

After the December election, President Kuchma's administration joined with the pro-reform majority to challenge Speaker Oleksandr Tkachenko and his Communist-Left forces and succeeded in electing a new Speaker and many of the leadership positions in the Rada. The result is a newly constituted parliament with a majority now occupying key positions that is capable of responding to President Kuchma and Prime Minister Yushchenko's reform agendas.

I would like to submit for the record and bring to the attention of my colleagues an interview with Grigoriy Surkis, a prominent, businessman and member of the Rada.

IT'S TIME FOR TRANSPARENCY

(By Grigoriy Surkis)

It would be desirable if our Parliament did not have deep divisions between the majority and minority factions; however this is not possible due to deep-rooted ideological divisions in the country.

Former Speaker Tkachenko, leader of the Communists in the Rada, demonstrated his inability to work out a compromise even when the majority announced a willingness to work cooperatively with Communist leaders on a legislative program.

By the way, leaders of the Ukraine Communists should learn a lesson from their Russian counterparts, who recently made a deal with the pro-government factions in organizing the Duma and distributing assignments among party leaders. They have a difficult time understanding that Communist authoritarianism does not exist in post-Soviet societies, nor is it as strong after eight years of democracy.

However, it remains to be seen how the pro-government block in Russia will get the Communist Speaker of the Duma to act on progressive legislation and actually achieve results. I sincerely wish that this arrangement will work so that the people of Russia benefit from progressive changes that will improve living standards that make for a better society.

In my opinion, Ukraine has chosen the right path. In parliament, we formed a majority bloc by uniting the "healthy" forces who were committed to reform legislation. This is necessary to ensure speedy action on a range of progressive proposals to deal with the problems of our pension system, taxes, and the criminal and civil code. This will help us to clean house in the Rada and institute badly needed changes that, in the past, impeded our efforts to confront these needs.

Is compromise possible? Let's think about it. We want our people to live in a new environment but there are some who want to pull us back to the old Soviet system. To go back is to lose hope and confidence in our ability to improve our situation. The reformers want a government that will enable people to own property while the Communists want people to be the property of the state. We believe that the Constitution is the basic law, but they still believe the "Party" is the supreme authority.

Finally, in a democracy it is acceptable to have a compromise, which is how people work out their differences. But the old guard distrusts working with what they see as the "bourgeois" and reject efforts to resolve differences amicably. So we are not talking about compromise in terms of confronting the issues and resolving differences, but the Communists see any negotiations with reformers as selling out or imposing a kompromat on us. I am reminded of the words of the great Golda Meir, who was born in Kiev, who once said: "We want to live. Our neighbors want to see us dead. I am afraid that this does not leave any space for compromise".

The problem would not be so serious if we were talking only about Parliament. However, we are talking about society as a whole. The Leftists seem committed to destroying the Rada, the one institution that ensures representation of the people in government decision making. Perhaps they do not know about Abraham Lincoln's statement that a house divided cannot succeed and that their intransigence will prevent democracy from taking root in Ukraine. Every-

one knows what happens to the person if his right leg makes two steps forward and the left remains rooted in the same spot.

I want to stress again that after the 1999 presidential election, it became obvious that a divided parliament with a Communist as Speaker would prove unacceptable and only serve to obstruct the reform agenda of the government. Had the Communists prevailed, they would have taken the country down the back road of political fatalism. Yet there are some who worry that the unfairness of winners hides the guilt of losers. I can only say that if the Leftists had won the election, we would not be asking these questions.

I am afraid that if the majority had allowed a Communist to remain as Speaker, it would have proved to be a temporary solution, similar to what will happen with the Duma. In the United States, it is possible for the Republicans to control the Congress and the other party to have the Presidency. This is possible because America has 200 years of experience working within democratic system.

Our country does not have time to wait. For us, every day without enacting and implementing laws is a huge setback for a country that must accomplish so much in a critically short time. The majority knows that it is impossible to form a parliament without the opposition, and it is our intention to treat proposals from the opposition seriously. We have assumed political responsibility that gives us an opportunity to cooperate with the newly re-elected president who bears the main responsibility for society as a whole.

We recognize that it is the president who must provide the leadership and direct the institutions of government. Throughout the years of Ukraine's independence, there is not a single case when the three branches of power simultaneously worked together on behalf of Ukrainian citizens. Today we must take responsibility and are ready to be accountable for our actions.

Once again, we do not have time. The majority of Ukrainian citizens spoke very clearly in the recent election of giving President Kuchma a new four-year term. By this vote, they rejected the Communist Party and the idea of turning back to the old system where freedom and human rights did not exist.

The Communists, of course, feel threatened by the new democratic forces and their reform agenda. They do not want to relinquish power and recognize that a new generation of intelligent and resourceful leaders is taking charge. That is the promise of democracy and, if given a chance to succeed, the future of Ukraine in the new millennium.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, due to flu, I unavoidably missed 8 votes on April 13th. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

"Yes" on the Journal (rollcall No. 123).

"No" on the Rule to the Budget Resolution (No. 124).

"No" on the Budget Resolution because it sets up unworkable appropriations caps and cuts vital domestic spending too deeply (No. 125).

"Yes" on the Rangel motion to recommit the Date Certain Tax Code Replacement Act (No. 126).

"No" on the Date Certain Tax Code Replacement Act (No. 127). To say one is going to end a tax system without spelling out what the replacement will be is economic nonsense and, if anyone actually believed this nonsense, would lead to tremendous financial instability.

"Yes" on the Rural Local Broadcast Signal Act (No. 128).

"Yes" on Mr. BARRETT'S amendment to the Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act (No. 129), and

"No" on passage of the Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act (No. 130).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on April 13, 2000, this Member inadvertently voted "aye" on rollcall vote 127 on final passage of H.R. 4199, the Date Certain Tax Code Replacement Act. This Member is opposed to the bill and intended to vote "no" on final passage as his statement at that time on H.R. 4199 reflected his opposition to the bill.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO MAYOR BILL LEWIS OF ENNIS, TEXAS

### HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to a fellow Texan who is both a longtime personal friend and an outstanding civic leader in the 24th Congressional District, Mayor Bill Lewis of Ennis, Texas.

Mayor Lewis will be honored this Friday by his home community and many friends for more than 30 years as a dedicated public servant. He has recently announced his intention to retire after this term as mayor, opting to spend more time with his family.

He spent a quarter century in Oak Cliff, where he worked with and retired from TU Electric long before it had that name. His office was in the same building as mine more than two decades ago, so we were business neighbors who became friends. He was a man of endless energy in the Oak Cliff community affairs for 23 years serving an endless array of charitable and public organizations.

When he retired from TU, he and his wife moved back to her childhood home, the city of Ennis. And although retired from business life, Bill continued the strong tradition of public service that has made him one of the most respected men I know. He has tirelessly served his community as a strong and active advocate, as mayor and in countless other capacities.

Service has indeed been a key word in the life of Bill Lewis, whether in his business career, as a charity worker, a chamber volunteer, on the battlefields of World War II, or a father in his local Dad's Club. The organizations which have benefited from Bill Lewis' dedication are too many to mention individually.

As we honor him in advance of his retirement as mayor, I am extremely proud that this

man who has been a friend to so many is also a friend of mine.

#### GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD 2000

### HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to salute outstanding young women who are being honored with the Girl Scout Gold Award by Girl Scouts-Kickapoo Council in Peoria, Illinois. They are Elizabeth Liddell of Girl Scout Troop #1000, Ann Schwingel of #301, Wendy Matheny of #581, Melissa Eman of #581, and Melody Blanch of #4. They are being honored on May 7, 2000 for earning the highest achievement award in U.S. Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Gold Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal development. The award can be earned by girls aged 14-17 or in grades 9-12.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Gold Awards to Senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer.

As members of Girl Scouts-Kickapoo Council, Elizabeth, Ann, Wendy, Melissa, and Melody began working toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in 1996 and 1997. They completed various projects: Elizabeth built a short nature trail for a local elementary school, Ann organized games to be played during inclement weather, Wendy helped to make youth more aware of daily injustices and how they can respond, Melissa repaired and reorganized the books in the Kickapoo Council lending library and Melody rebuilt the fitness trail at the local Girl Scout camp. I believe all of these girls should receive the public recognition due them for their significant service to their community and their country.

#### IN HONOR OF BAYONNE ELKS LODGE NO. 434 STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students selected as Bayonne Elks Lodge No. 434 Students of the Month.

Each year, the Bayonne Elks Lodge No. 434 selects students from a group of applicants to participate in Bayonne Elks Youth Day. On this day, young students from around the Bayonne community are provided a unique opportunity to interact with local government.

Students take on the role of a government official, and under the guidance of that official,

learn the process by which local government functions. This is an excellent chance to reward hard working students for their commitment to academics, while providing them with useful knowledge for their future as community leaders.

Today, I commend the Bayonne Elks Lodge for its commitment to our youth and for its support and recognition of young student's achievements in the classroom, reaffirming and strengthening the students' character and resolve.

I congratulate the students who have achieved this great success, and I look forward to a future in which the next generation proudly takes on the responsibility and commitment of public service.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the Bayonne Elks Lodge No. 434 Students of the Month, on their special day.

#### RED HILL COUNCIL RECEIVES THE "MAKING A DIFFERENCE" AWARD

### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an exceptional group, the Red Hill Council, who was honored by the Bureau of Land Management with the "Making a Difference" award. The BLM selected the Red Hill Council group because of their dedication to Colorado and to its outdoors.

The Red Hill Council is comprised of volunteers, neighbors and community partners. Their mission is to aid the BLM in preserving several aspects of the Red Hill area. For over two years, the Council has held public discussions, conducted assessments and overseen volunteer programs. They have raised over \$80,000 in contributions from the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is obvious why the Red Hill Council was chosen for the "Making a Difference" award. I think we owe them a debt of gratitude for their service and dedication to Colorado and to its outdoors.

#### TRIBUTE TO RABBI ISAAH ZELDIN

### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are greatly honored today to pay tribute to Stephen S. Wise Temple which will, on Sunday evening, May 21st, celebrate its 36th Anniversary. This anniversary has special significance in the Jewish faith. The Hebrew letter chai represents the number 18 and means "life." Thirty-six, then—is a Double Chai or "double-life" and an event of great importance.

Also on that evening, another event of great importance will be celebrated: the 80th birthday of the founder of Stephen S. Wise Temple, the distinguished scholar and nationally respected teacher, Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin.

In the short span of 36 years, Stephen S. Wise Temple has grown into the largest Jewish congregation in the West and the second-largest Jewish congregation in the world. It is both a caring and active congregation and a renowned center for spiritual, cultural and educational studies. On its beautiful campus in the hills above West Los Angeles, is found—in addition to the temple—a dynamic elementary school, a unique Jewish community high school and a religious institute, all highly acclaimed for the excellent education they offer. They represent one of the greatest legacies of Rabbi Zeldin—the origination of Reform Judaism's day school programs in Los Angeles.

It is hard to overstate the vision and the commitment that led Rabbi Zeldin to build such an extraordinary facility. This complex of eleven buildings on an 18-acre site carved out of a mountain which serves more than 3,000 families is a true testament to his hard work, his dedication, his visionary guidance, his strong sense of community and his great interest in training young people in the traditions of their religion as well as the knowledge of the world.

Upon Rabbi Zeldin's graduation from the Cincinnati School of Hebrew Union College, he became the assistant rabbi of the largest Reform congregation in New Jersey. He spent the next several years serving as a spiritual leader at various congregations and, in 1964, founded the Stephen S. Wise Temple. He is the former president of the San Fernando Valley Synagogue Council, the American Zionist Federation of Southern California, the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis and the American Zionist Council. On a personal note, Rabbi Zeldin did a wonderful job of officiating at the bat mitzvah of Lindsey Berman.

We are very proud, Mr. Speaker, to ask that our distinguished colleagues join us in congratulating Stephen S. Wise Temple on its Double Chai Anniversary, and in extending our gratitude and appreciation to Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin for his enormous accomplishments and his tremendous contributions to the Jewish community of Los Angeles. We wish him many happy returns.

PHILADELPHIA'S LIVELY ARTS  
GROUP FOUNDER RETIRES  
AFTER 25 YEARS

### HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, this year the Lively Arts Group bids farewell to its founding director, Naomi Klein, who is retiring after 25 years of service.

The Lively Arts Group is unique as the nation's only nonprofit cultural arts touring organization since its founding in 1975 by Naomi Klein. Since then Mrs. Klein has conducted an average of 50 adult-education and cultural-arts tours each year, totaling 1,250 tours in her 25 years. Mrs. Klein has personally guided more than 62,000 Philadelphia area residents throughout our country to major museums, orchestra concerts, theater, ballet and opera performances, historic houses, mansions, villages and gardens. For many of these travelers, especially those with physical disabilities, it has been their eye-opening and mind-

opening introduction to the various cultural arts, which they have subsequently pursued and enjoyed independently.

At the same time, these group visits have provided a new outreach audience, additional new members and support for these cultural organizations and institutions. Directors of Philadelphia's museums and cultural institutions have served as the Lively Arts Group's Advisory Board, lending their prestige and professional knowledge to these tours.

The Lively Arts Group adventures have spread Philadelphia's reputation for its cultural-minded citizens throughout the country and abroad and continues into its next century on the principles and highest standards of arts-education and community service created in 1975 by its founder, Naomi Klein.

IN RECOGNITION OF BROOKLYN  
CHINESE-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION'S  
FOURTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF AVENUE U SENIOR AND COMMUNITY  
CENTER

### HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association's Avenue U Senior and Community Center on its fourth anniversary.

Gillian Anderson once said "Be of service \* \* \* there is nothing that harvests more of a feeling of empowerment than being of service to someone in need." This need is met everyday for the members of the Avenue U Senior and Community Center.

In just 4 years, the Center has enrolled more than 1,600 members, serving more than 150 senior members daily. It offers daily meals, social service information, referral and case management, medical and health-related workshops and screenings, monthly birthday celebrations, ESL, citizenship, music, dancing and arts and crafts classes, field trips, as well as other recreational activities.

The Center additionally is involved in coordinating community events such as town hall meetings, assisting senior members with their meeting housing needs, promoting voter registration and educating the community about the importance of exercising their voting rights.

President John F. Kennedy once said the definition of happiness is "the full use of your powers along lines of excellence." Members of the Avenue U Senior and Community Center understand this happiness and I wish them and members of the Brooklyn Chinese-American Association continued success and best wishes this anniversary.

SUPPORTING THE FULL FUNDING  
OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
EDUCATION ACT

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4055, the IDEA Funding Act.

I am happy that this Congress has finally decided to vote on substantive legislation that

puts our children first. Hopefully, this vote is an indication of this Congress' national commitment to our children in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Over 25 years ago, Congress promised to pay 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure of all children with disabilities. However, the government has never funded more than 12.6 percent. This lack of funding has placed severe strains on local school district's budgets.

Today's vote provides the necessary financial resources to help our local school districts to provide a first rate education to students with disabilities as well as freeing up resources to be used for the education of other students.

Although it has taken 25 years for the Congress to seriously address this funding issue, the fact that there is a funding formula has made Congress accountable to providing these funds. Educators have been able to point out that Congressional funding for IDEA has fallen far short from what was promised to each disabled student. This link between program funding and the student provides Congress with an accurate measure of the amount of increased funding that is necessary to keep up with the inflationary increases in a student's education.

This fact should not be lost when we debate and vote on the reauthorization of ESEA later this year. There have been many bills introduced that would break the connection of Federal funding to each student by block granting these programs. The effect of creating block grants in such programs as title I will result in fewer poor children receiving the adequate funds to provide them a good education.

I ask my colleagues in the majority to remember the pressures that have caused Congress to vote on this bill today and how much its passage will positively impact the education of disabled children throughout the United States, I urge them to remember this when they vote on the reauthorization of ESEA.

IN HONOR OF "TERTULIAS DE  
ANTANO" ("GET TOGETHER OF  
YESTERDAY")

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor "Tertulias de Antano" ("Get Together of Yesterday") for its contribution to the Cuban-American community of West New York.

"Tertulias de Antano" came into existence 22 years ago because one woman, Lidia Gil-Ramos, who came to America in 1965 as a Cuban refugee, had the desire to "help make the elderly happy and help them take part in local life." She founded the program and volunteers her time as program coordinator.

"Tertulias de Antano" has helped Cuban elderly within the Cuban-American community of West New York, New Jersey to escape the disconnect and loneliness often experienced by immigrant communities.

In describing the work of a small group of volunteers dedicated to helping the Cuban elderly, Gil-Ramos said: "We work for love, not for profit." "Tertulias de Antano" does not receive any government funds—only private donations are accepted. However, this has not

prevented the organization from achieving success. I attribute the success of this wonderful organization to the hard work and dedication of Lid Gil-Ramos and her equally dedicated staff of volunteers.

Today, it is my great pleasure to honor "Tertulias de Antano" and everyone who has helped integrate the Cuban elderly community into American society. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring them as well.

TOWN OF HOTCHKISS CELEBRATES  
100 YEARS

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate the Town of Hotchkiss on celebrating 100 years. On May 6, 2000, the 920 citizens have set the day aside for festivities and celebration. There will be a parade, contests for the kids and adults, food, prizes and more.

On March, 19, 1900, papers were filed to make Hotchkiss a legally incorporated Colorado municipality. On May 7, 1900, they received notice from the State of Colorado that the State had accepted the petition and charter for the Town of Hotchkiss, whose population at the time was less than 300. The new town was named after Enos Throop Hotchkiss who had led the first party of settlers into the valley in 1881. George and William Duke, Fred Simonds and Ed Hanson were the towns "speculators" or "subdivision developers." They owned many of the businesses in the town.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to the Town of Hotchkiss for their many contributions to the State of Colorado. I would like to wish the Town of Hotchkiss Happy 100th Birthday!

A TRIBUTE TO RABBI AMIEL  
WOHL

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I express my great admiration for Rabbi Amiel Wohl, a remarkable spiritual leader and great American who this year retires from twenty-seven years of service to Temple Israel of New Rochelle.

A man of high principle, moving eloquence, and tireless energy, Rabbi Wohl has touched countless lives in Westchester County through his work at Temple Israel and his contributions to a variety of civic organizations.

Under Rabbi Wohl's leadership, Temple Israel has built on its already rich history and reinforced its reputation as a vibrant center of religious observance and civic activism. Rabbi Wohl's support for new programs and his introduction of additional opportunities for worship have enabled congregants to enrich their spiritual lives and achieve a closer connection to their neighbors.

Rabbi Wohl has earned a reputation as an outstanding communicator, whose radio broadcasts touch thousands beyond the walls

of Temple Israel and invite Jews and non-Jews alike to reflect on the ethical and moral precepts which guide our lives. He has been especially supportive of important Jewish institutions and organizations such as the Westchester Jewish Conference, B'nai B'rith, the Zionist Organization of American, the Anti-Defamation League, the Westchester Board of Rabbis, and UJA/Federation.

Rabbi Wohl's commitment to achieving harmony among religious, racial, and ethnic groups has been just as impressive. He helped found the Inter-Religious Council of New Rochelle, serves as Co-President of the Coalition for Mutual Respect, which encourages dialogue between Jews and African-Americans, and enjoys close relationships with community leaders representing a variety of traditions.

Rabbi Amiel Wohl's extraordinary stature and unique personal example will remain sources of inspiration to his congregants and fellow New Rochelleans for many years to come. I am proud to call Rabbi Wohl a friend and pleased to join in wishing him a joyous and rewarding retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF YOM  
HASHOAH—THE ANNUAL DAY OF  
REMEMBRANCE

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House, and indeed, our nation pause on this Yom Hashoah—the Day of Remembrance—to remember the Six Million Jewish Men, Women and Children who perished during the Holocaust in the last century. While there were many positive legacies of the twentieth century, the Holocaust stands out as one of the most negative, shameful legacies—a legacy that must never be forgotten.

I believe it is appropriate to mark this first Yom Hashoah of the Twenty-first Century with appropriate recognition. As one of the statues that stands as a vigilant sentinel outside of the National Archives here in Washington, D.C. is inscribed "What's Past is Prologue." Without our nation's efforts to ensure that this tragedy is remembered by remembering each of its victims, such a tragedy could happen again.

Therefore, as Chairman of the Florida Congressional Delegation, I am proud to join Florida governor Jeb Bush in recognizing today, Tuesday, May 2, 2000, as a "Day of Tolerance" in our State. The promotion of tolerance for Florida citizens of all races, religions and ethnicities on this solemn day will be a small tribute to the memory of those Holocaust victims—victims of the Shoah—that are not here today to enjoy the dawn of this new century.

CHRIS AND JANE BREISETH  
HONORED

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to my good friends Chris and Jane Breiseth

from my District in Pennsylvania. This week, the Breiseths are being honored with the Distinguished Community Service Award by the Wilkes-Barre Society of Fellows, Anti-Defamation League (ADL). I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate in this event, which is honoring such a well-respected and well-liked couple.

Dr. Christopher Breiseth will retire as president of Wilkes University in July 2001, after 17 years, the second-longest presidential term in the institution's history. He has been an extraordinary president of Wilkes University, bringing significant growth to the institution during a challenging period for all private institutions of higher education. He not only established the School of Pharmacy and oversaw the construction of numerous new buildings on the Wilkes campus, but he also maintained a warm, caring atmosphere that encouraged students to thrive.

During his tenure, the university has experienced unprecedented growth in its fundraising, programmatic and campus development initiatives. He led the institution to its 1989 designation as a university by the Pennsylvania Board of Education, a recognition of the breadth of Wilkes's programs and curricula at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Under Chris's leadership, the Wilkes campus has been transformed into a cohesive academic environment, with several buildings constructed or remodeled for student residence, study and recreation. Curricular enhancements include the 1994 creation of the School of Pharmacy, which will graduate its first class of Doctors of Pharmacy on May 20.

Chris's legacy extends to his tireless efforts as a community leader. His awards and involvements are too numerous to list them all. Personally, I developed enormous respect and appreciation for him from countless hours working together on the creation of the Earth Conservancy, a unique organization formed to reclaim thousands of acres of mine-scarred land in the Wyoming Valley. There were many difficult moments during the early days of the Earth Conservancy, and Chris Breiseth put himself at significant personal and professional risk to make our dream a reality. He continues to serve as chairman of the board and has helped to develop the Earth Conservancy into a respected and important asset for the community.

Mr. Speaker, Jane Morehouse Breiseth is a highly educated community activist in her own right. Educated at prestigious Cornell University, she earned a Bachelor's in Comparative Literature, then earned her Master's in Education there in 1967. She is certified to teach Language Arts and Social Studies in several states. Jane has taught in several schools over her career and was a study skill specialist, worked on a quality of life survey project and was assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

Since coming to Northeastern Pennsylvania, Jane has continued her civic involvement. She has worked with the Family Service Association, Hospice St. John, Luzerne County Women's Conference, and the Northeast Philharmonic Society, to name just a few.

The Breiseths are active members of First Presbyterian Church in Wilkes-Barre and the parents of three fine young women, Abigail, Erika, and Lydia.

Mr. Speaker, when the Breiseths came to Northeastern Pennsylvania, they truly made it

their home, volunteering their time and energy to many worthwhile projects and community activities. The area is enriched by their presence and I am extremely proud and honored to be among their many friends. I sent my sincere best wishes as they accept this prestigious award and I look forward to their continued involvement in the community for years to come.

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HELEN STAIRS THEATER

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the City of Sanford, Florida and its citizens for their successful renovation and restoration of the former Ritz Theater, to be renamed the Helen Stairs Theater, which will celebrate its grand opening on Saturday, May 6, 2000. The theater, located in the historic district of Sanford, has celebrated a storied past, and its restoration promises the citizens of Sanford the opportunity to transform an icon of another age into a community facility with a bright new future.

Originally known as the Milane Theater, the Helen Stairs Theater was first constructed in 1923 by the Milane Amusement Company as part of a broad expansion in downtown Sanford. The theater design is indicative of a building style that began appearing in the United States in the 1850s based on European models of opera houses. Motion picture expansion in the early twentieth century led to a boom in the construction of new theaters with over twenty-five thousand theaters located across the United States by 1916. The technical sophistication achieved in theater construction during this period remains unparalleled in the history of American architecture. The Helen Stairs Theater epitomizes the tremendous boom and amazing achievements made during this period and is a visual testimony to the rich history and beauty of Sanford, Florida.

The Milane Amusement Company, led by President Frank Miller and Vice President Edward Lane, built the theater as a profit-enterprise. They had acquired the site from the former Star Theater, and movie house that had been abandoned for a number of years, with the intention of creating a new theater that would be capable of accommodating seven hundred patrons. Construction of the new theater began in November of 1922, and was completed in July of 1923 for a mere \$80,000. Editors of the Sanford Daily Herald proclaimed the building as "a much needed asset in the City Substantial," and claimed that "this city now has a real theater and one of which the city can feel proud." The theater opened on August 2, 1923 to rave reviews.

Over the next few years there were management changes, the sale of the theater to Frank and Stella Evans in 1933, and in 1936, the theater was renamed the Ritz Theater. The Ritz continued to thrive through the years featuring mostly picture shows, but also including some live performances, and became an integral part of the history of Sanford. During the 1960s, the theater attendance declined, and in 1978, the Ritz closed after fail-

ing to compete with the new multiplex theaters. The theater stood vacant until 1984 when it was reopened as the Showtime Cantina. Four years later the theater was again closed and remained vacant until the mid-1990s when it was acquired by the Ritz Community Theater Project, Inc., under the leadership of Helen Stairs. The group began renovating the theater in 1999, and it was renamed in honor of Helen Stairs whose determination and dedicated effort has resulted in its restoration.

I congratulate and thank Helen Stairs, her husband Carl and family, and all of those who joined with her in the effort to restore this historic treasure. On behalf of the Central Florida U.S. Congressional Delegation, we salute the tremendous effort that made this community project a reality.

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FEDERALIZATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the April issue of the Phyllis Schlafly Report contains a penetrating analysis of education issues that now confront Congress.

I hope my colleagues will give this material the careful attention it deserves.

[From the Phyllis Schlafly Report, April 2000]

WHY THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE BEING FEDERALIZED

Congress is about to pass legislation that will federalize every local school district and spell the end of local and state control of America's public school classrooms. Mindful of Ronald Reagan's words, "You can't control the economy without controlling the people," Bill and Hillary Clinton have found the way to control the economy by controlling America's schoolchildren.

The plan started with the passage of Bill Clinton's two 1994 laws, the Goals 2000 Act and the School-to-Work Act, and we were moved further in the same direction with his Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Now, with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), H.R. 2/S.2, the Clintons are about to complete the nationalization of the public school classroom.

This massive education bill is the eighth successive five-year plan to increase academic achievement by providing "compensatory education" grants to schools with high concentrations of low-income children. It is more ambitious and comprehensive than the Clintons' discredited 1994 health care plan.

A holdover from Lyndon Johnson's Great Society legislation, the ESEA has already spent more than \$116 billion. According to the Federal Government's five-year \$29 million longitudinal study concluded in 1997, the ESEA failed to achieve its objectives.

Unable to make the argument that ESEA, with its current price tag in excess of \$10 billion per year, will raise academic achievement of poor children, the Clintons designed this "stealth" legislation with very different objectives. Pretending to "educate to high standards," ESEA mandates that all 50 states agree to implement a one-size-fits-all education plan. (Sec. 1001(a)(1))

How? The bill calls for mandated "state-wide" minimum competencies for all children." That's code language for the disas-

trous and discredited Outcome Based Education (OBE). (Sec. 1111(B)(4)(A,B))

OBE (also called performance-based education) is measured by "criterion referenced tests" that assess students against a low threshold of achievement (formerly associated with the letter grade "D"), rather than by "norm referenced tests" which measure how well students master a body of knowledge in comparison with other students (such as the ACT, SAT, GRE, Iowa Basic, and Stanford Achievement tests).

ESEA's purpose is to tie schools to the floor of minimum achievement rather than to the ceiling of educational excellence and possibilities. The oft-repeated phrase "all children will learn" really means that all children will be taught only the low level of learning that is actually reached by all children.

The term "minimum competencies" doesn't sell well to parents and the tax-paying public, so as linguistic bait-and-switch occurs through the bill. "Standards" means minimum levels, "accountability" means accountability to the U.S. Department's of Education and Labor, "integrated curriculum" means integrating of training into the school day, and "local control" means control only over implementing the nonacademic job-training system but not over standards, content or testing.

Not only does ESEA force OBE and criterion referenced testing on every local school district in the nation, ESEA cements into place the goals of nationalized curriculum, nationalized testing and national teacher certification, which were envisioned in the 1994 Goals 2000 Act. ESEA also continues the radical changes required by the 1994 School-to-Work Act to guide schools away from a knowledge-based system and toward training for Jobs selected by local Workforce boards.(Sec. 1111, Sat Plans)

School-to-work is the Clintons vision of controlling the economy. Students will be pigeon-holed into jobs to serve the best interests of the local economy as decided by the bureaucrats, not into careers chosen by the student.

"But," Congress proclaims, "the Goals 2000 and School-to-Work laws are sun setting!" Nothing could be further from the truth.

While those laws are about to expire, all 50 states adopted them and ESEA requires that states certify they have adopted "challenging content standards and challenging student performance standards \* \* \* with aligned assessments." That is bureaucratic jargon for continuing the 1994 Goals 2000/School-to-Work mandates.(Sec. 1111)

ESEA has already moved far in the legislative process because Congress was hoodwinked by the bills doublespeak language and only now is beginning to understand that the Goals 2000 and School-to-Work laws have morphed into ESEA. If ESEA passes in its current form, every public school district will be forced to continue implementation of the revolutionary restructuring required by the 1994 laws.

ESEA is not stand-alone legislation but works in tandem with other federal, state and local programs to mesh curriculum, graduation requirements and public funds into state-filed, federally-approved Unified Plans under the Workforce Investment Act. Under the guise of education "reform," all traditional public school curriculum, testing and teaching methods are being replaced with a job training system modeled after failed socialized economies in Europe.

ESEA will fulfill Bill and Hillary Clinton's dream of national economic planning fed by a federalized workforce training system domiciled in the public schools. ESEA is the capstone of their plan to restructure our American system away from free enterprise,

academic achievement in schools, and the freedom of individuals to select their future occupations.

CLINTON'S PLAN FOR EDUCATION AND THE ECONOMY

The following graphic, distributed by the Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning (DCFL), explains how School-to-Work is a government plan to interlock public school "reform" of curriculum with workforce preparation (job training) and economic development (national economic planning). This official state publication states that the School-to-Work mission is "to create a seamless system of education and workforce preparation for all learners, tied to the needs of a competitive marketplace."

School-to-Work means that the mission of the public schools is no longer to educate children to be all they can be, but instead to train students to take entry-level jobs as needed by the global economy. The different motivations of several special interests perfectly mesh in School-to-Work: the Clinton Administration economic gurus (Marc Tucker, Ira Magaziner and Robert Reich) who say they want America to imitate the German school-to-workforce system, the Clinton Administration education activists (particularly the teachers unions and Education Department bureaucrats) who want to control the school system, and the multinational corporations that seek a poorly-educated but well-trained labor force willing to work for low wages to compete with low-paid workers in the Third World.

The master plan to federalize education and tie it into the workforce originated with the now infamous "Dear Hillary" letter written on November 11, 1992 by Marc Tucker, president of the National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE). It lays out a plan "to remold the entire American system" into "a seamless web that literally extends from cradle to grave and is the same system for everyone," coordinated by "labor market boards at the local, state and federal levels" where curriculum and "job matching" will be handled by counselors "accessing the integrated computer-based program."

Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-CO) correctly analyzed this letter as "a blueprint for a German model of education that would be forced upon the people of America." He said this "moves the country toward a government-owned centralized education system from kindergarten past college." He placed this letter in the Congressional Record on September 25, 1998. It is most easily accessible on Eagle Forum's website: <http://www.eagleforum.org>.

A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN NURSES DURING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a remarkable group of dedicated health professionals—the 2 million+ registered nurses in the United States.

These outstanding men and women, who work hard to save lives and maintain the health of millions of individuals, will celebrate National Nurses Week from May 6–12, 2000. Registered nurses will be honored by hosting or participating in several events such as rallies, childhood immunizations, community health screenings, publicity efforts, dinners, re-

ceptions and hospital events. I believe that any American who has ever been cared for by a nurse should join in the celebration of National Nurses Week.

Modern nursing has been traced to Florence Nightingale's efforts during the Crimean War of the mid-19th century. Exactly 100 years after Nightingale's methods were first used, National Nurses Week was first observed from October 11–16, 1954. National Nurses Day and Week was eventually moved to May to include Florence Nightingale's birthday, which is May 12th.

Using this year's theme: "Nurses—Keeping the Care in Health Care," the American Nurses Association (ANA) and its 53 constituent associations will highlight the diverse ways in which registered nurses, the largest health care profession, are working to improve health care for Americans. Thankfully, the efforts of nurses are being widely acknowledged. According to the Gallup Poll's 1999 "Honesty and Ethics" survey, nursing ranked #1 of 45 among the most respected professions.

Mr. Speaker, I will salute America's nurses during the week of May 6–12, 2000. I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

END RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities in India continues. Now even an ally of the ruling party has spoken out against it.

Newsroom, a website devoted to religious news, reported that the Trinamool Congress, a party in coalition with the ruling BJP, demanded the banning of Bajrang Dal, a militant Hindu nationalist organization. The Bajrang Dal is affiliated with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), which in turn is part of the RSS, a Fascist organization that is the parent organization of the BJP.

Dara Singh, the person India has arrested in connection with the murder of missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons, has been linked to the Bajrang Dal. Christians have been subjected to three attacks in Uttar Pradesh in two weeks. On Good Friday, members of the Bajrang Dal attacked members of the House of Worship, a Christian church in Agra. Uttar Pradesh also has a law prohibiting Muslims from building new mosques or converting any building into a mosque without government permission. In the state of Orissa, religious conversions are banned without government permission.

In Haryana on April 22, three nuns were attacked by a Hindu fundamentalist. One, Sister Anandi, remains in Holy Family Hospital in serious condition. No one has been arrested for this crime.

The militant Hindu fundamentalists who carried out these acts are allies of the Indian government. The government itself has killed over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland, over a quarter of a million Sikhs, more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of others. It holds tens of thousands of political prisoners without charge or trial.

Some of them have been held for over 15 years. This is unacceptable.

America is the bastion of freedom in the world. It is our responsibility to do what we can to ensure freedom for all people. We should cut off India's aid until it learns to respect human rights. The government must stop killing religious and ethnic minorities. It must also punish strongly those who kill and do other acts of violence in the government's behalf. Amnesty International, which has not been allowed to enter India to investigate human rights abuses since 1978, must be allowed to come into the country. Until then, no American money should go to India.

We should also put this Congress on record in support of democracy in South Asia by calling for a free and fair plebiscite, under international supervision, to decide the political future of Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the other nations occupied by India. These steps are the best way to bring freedom to all the people of South Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the Newsroom article into the RECORD. I urge my colleagues to read it.

BAJRANG DAL BAN SOUGHT AFTER PRE-EASTER ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANS IN INDIA

NEW DELHI, 25 April 2000 (Newsroom)—Allies of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which leads India's coalition government, this week demanded that the BJP ban a militant group of Hindu nationalists and dismiss the BJP-led Uttar Pradesh state government in the wake of recent attacks against Christians.

The call by the Trinamool Congress, an ally in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance headed by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, to ban the Bajrang Dal and dismiss Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Ram Prakash Gupta and his government stunned BJP leaders.

Leaders from the Trinamool Congress and from the opposition Congress and Samajwadi parties blasted the BJP for failing to control the Hindu nationalist group that many blame for the spate of violent incidents directed toward religious minorities in the last two years.

The Bajrang Dal, a militant Hindu organization affiliated with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Council) and linked to several attacks on Christians, believes it has a duty to promote the Hindu religion and Hindutva—Hinduness—in India. Dara Singh, who is accused of masterminding the murders of Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons last year, has been linked to the Bajrang Dal, although the group denies he is a member.

Sudip Bandopadhyay of the Trinamul Congress and Yerram Naidu, Tulugu Desam party leader, demanded that security be provided to Christians and other religious minorities wherever possible, especially in states like Uttar Pradesh where there have been three violent attacks against Christians in the last two weeks.

Madhavrao Scindia, deputy leader of the Congress Party in the Lok Sabha (the lower house of Parliament), said the government should put a stop to incidents like those reported in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana this month. He demanded a response from Home Affairs Minister Lal Kishen Advani, who is considered a friend of most of India's Hindu nationalist groups and is the second most powerful man in India after Vajpayee. "Groups close to the BJP must be reined in as they are vitiating communal peace," Scindia said.

Opposition Samajwadi party leader Mulayam Singh Yadav, who once headed the

defense ministry, said that militant Hindu groups pose a greater danger than the actions of religious minorities. "Majority communalism poses a greater danger compared to minority communalism," he said. Members of the Hindu group Shiv Sena tried to heckle him while he addressed members of Parliament.

During a two-day BJP national executive meeting in the Uttar Pradesh town of Lucknow, Vajpayee chastised Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Ram Prakash Gupta over his state's handling of attacks on Christian missionaries in Mathura. Vajpayee reportedly said the state should have dispatched police to assess the situation and instill confidence among the Christian community. He also asked the state government to explain its position on the controversial religious places bill, which prohibits Muslims from building mosques or converting an existing building into a mosque without government permission.

Bajrang Dal national coordinator Surendra Kumar Jain said last month that his group was fighting to construct a temple for Ram in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh. The extremist group also once demanded that the federal government declare Pakistan an enemy state.

Referring to the attacks against Christians, Jain said that "missionaries consider Hindus a soft target. Even the words 'soft target' were used in the missionary literature. However, now the Hindus have woken up. We are no more a soft target for their unholy activities. We appreciate missionary services, but only when the object is service and not conversion."

Monday's confrontation in parliament followed three attacks against Christians in Uttar Pradesh in the last two weeks. Members of the House of Worship, one of India's fastest-growing church groups headquartered in the southern state of Hyderabad, were attacked by suspected Bajrang Dal activists on the outskirts of Agra, site of the Taj Mahal, police said. The Good Friday attack on the 14-member preaching team from Hyderabad in the BJP-ruled state came a week after a Catholic priest and three nuns were attacked in a school. It was the seventh attack reported in the state in less than 100 days.

The Bajrang Dal complained to state police that the Hyderabad group was trying to convert villagers by offering them money, a charge church authorities deny. In a counter complaint the victims reported that a mob of 20 to 30 people attacked the van in which they were traveling and tried to burn the vehicle. The group returned to Hyderabad where the main church, Hebron Church, is located. The church, also known as the Indigenous Society of Churches in India, is one of the fastest growing in the country with mainly new converts as members. It was founded by a Punjabi Sikh agricultural engineer, Bakht Singh, in the 1920s. Bakht Singh is 99.

Three Catholic nuns on their way to attend midnight Mass in Rewari in neighboring Haryana state were attacked Saturday night by a man riding a scooter. It was the third attack on Christians reported in the past three months in this wheat-rich state. One nun, Sister Anandi, remains in Holy Family Hospital in serious condition. The other two nuns suffered minor injuries. Police so far have made no arrests.

John Dayal, convener of the United Christian Forum for Human Rights, said in a prepared statement that "this attack was part of the series of ongoing attacks on Christians and their institutions."

## THE SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS ACT OF 2000

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Safe and Successful Schools Act of 2000. It will help modernize our public schools by providing grants and loans for up to 8,300 renovation projects in high-need school districts. It will continue the highly successful class size reduction program by helping communities hire an additional 20,000 highly qualified teachers. It will boost investments in quality after-school and summer school programs advocated by the President. It will help us close the digital divide that currently leaves too many poor children and their teachers behind. It will bolster safe and drug free school programs, and strengthen programs to reduce hate crimes by children.

ESEA is our nation's flagship education partnership with local communities. It provides vital assistance to the most vulnerable, educationally challenged children in America. Until this Congress, the ESEA had enjoyed a rich and enduring history of bipartisanship.

Unfortunately, Senate and House Republicans have been highly partisan and divisive. At the beginning of the ESEA process, we urged Republicans to work in a bipartisan way. Instead, they proceeded in a highly partisan manner and created havoc throughout the reauthorization process. In the House, they carved up the ESEA into seven disjointed pieces—hoping to bolster their devastating public image and terrible performance on education.

Today, the ESEA process is in shambles. Straight A's, the Republican education block grant bill, has a veto threat pending and has no chance of becoming law. Their Teacher Empowerment bill has a veto threat pending because of its gratuitous attack and block granting of the Clinton Class Size Reduction Act. Conservative Republican Members are blocking floor action on two other ESEA bills, Even Start and Impact Aid. And the one major bipartisan bill, H.R. 2, has been sharply and publicly attacked by reactionary Republican Members of the Education and Workforce Committee.

Republicans repeatedly refused to work with Democrats to craft the pending ESEA bill, H.R. 4141, and voted in mass to defeat 52 of 54 amendments offered by Democratic Members. The bill passed out of committee is a legislative disaster. Every major education group opposes the bill. The President will probably veto it.

Because the Republicans have decided to play politics with America's school children, they have placed in jeopardy passage of this comprehensive Federal aid program to education. If the Republicans leave town this year without enacting the ESEA, it would be the first time that the program has permanently lapsed in its 35-year history.

I urge the Republican leadership to stop playing politics with our nation's school children, and pass ESEA legislation that can bring urgent relief and assistance to our public schools this year.

THE DEMOCRATIC AGENDA: DEMONSTRATING A NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO OUR NATION'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS ACT OF 2000

*Helping Communities Repair and Modernize Unsafe Schoolhouses*

Communities across the country are struggling to address critical needs to build new schools and renovate existing one. One-third of all public schools—about 25,000 schools—need extensive repair or replacement. A recent survey documented over \$250 billion dollars of unmet school modernization funding need.

The Safe and Successful Schools Act of 2000 authorizes \$1.3 billion annually to help communities make emergency school renovations such as repairing roofs, fixing dangerous electrical wiring and plumbing, bringing schools into compliance with fire safety codes, undertaking asbestos removal or abatement, and removing lead-based paint. The Act will support up to 8,300 renovation projects in high-poverty, high-need school districts that have little or no capacity to fund urgent repairs over the next five years.

*Reducing Class Sizes/Smaller Schools*

Research shows that class size reduction in the early grades is one of the most direct and effective ways to boost student academic achievement, especially among populations of disadvantaged children. Smaller class sizes ensure that every child receives personal attention, gets a solid foundation for further learning, and learns to read independently by the end of the third grade. The Safe and Successful Schools Act of 2000 continues the Clinton/Clay class size reduction program that is helping communities hire and pay for 100,000 new, fully qualified teachers.

The Act also reauthorizes the Small, Safe and Successful High Schools program, which helps high schools to create smaller, safer learning environments. Research has shown that the size of a school and the number of its students greatly impact children's ability to learn and the likelihood that violence may occur.

*Accountability for Results*

The bill requires schools reducing class sizes to hire only fully qualified teachers. The bill strengthens ESEA technology programs by focusing on the achievement of performance indicators and the correlation between technology and improved student achievement. The Act requires school safety and drug abuse prevention programs to be based on sound research, and strengthens reporting and eligibility criteria for the Title VI program, increasing program accountability.

*Providing Safe After-School Learning Opportunities for Students*

Extended learning programs reduce juvenile crime by providing a wide range of education, social, mentoring, and counseling services to help improve student behavior, including services relating to violence prevention and conflict resolution. Recent research has demonstrated that extended learning programs help improve student achievement in reading and math, and reduce truancy and dropout rates.

The Safe and Successful Schools Act more than doubles our investment to \$1 billion, in the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. This program enables schools to stay open longer, providing safe and educational after-school opportunities for some 700,000 school age children in rural and urban communities each year, and vital social health, and educational services for their families.

*Providing Safe and Drug Free Schools/Keeping Guns Out of Our Schools*

America's students cannot be expected to learn to high standards if they are threatened by drugs and violence. There is a high level of concern by parents and students about school safety and violence caused in part by the tragic shootings at Columbine High School and other schools in the past two years.

The legislation will increase funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools Act, and enhance its accountability and performance through the adoption of research-based programs. It also authorizes the Secretary of Education to set aside \$5 million annually to fund strong, community-based hate crime prevention activities.

The bill requires school districts, with a history of suspensions and expulsions for gun violence or possession, to work with law enforcement agencies to promote the use of child safety locks.

Lastly, the bill provides new, additional support for school-based alternative education programs to address the educational needs of students who are suspended or expelled from school. This authority will increase the safety of both our schools and communities by ensuring that discipline and violence problems leading to suspensions and expulsions do not spill over into the community.

*Recruiting and Maintaining High Quality Teachers*

The Safe and Successful Schools Act of 2000 requires all teachers to become certified or fully licensed, and have knowledge of the subjects they teach. The bill creates a "Parent Right to Know" requirement to ensure that parents are made aware of the professional qualifications and expertise of their children's teacher. It also includes a provision requiring that parents be notified when their child is being taught by an underqualified or substitute teacher for more than two consecutive weeks.

It also authorizes \$50 million to help high-poverty school districts attract and retain teachers and principals through better pay. To become eligible, schools would have to undertake rigorous peer review of every teacher, improve systems to remove low-performing teachers, and provide intensive support to give the opportunity for all teachers to succeed.

*Expanding Access to Education Technology/  
Closing the Digital Divide*

Technology in the schools can substantially improve student learning, classroom management, the professional development of teachers, and assessment of student progress. Most importantly, strong school technology programs report significant impact on gains in student achievement in reading, writing, and mathematics. Technology has its greatest impact with low-income and rural students as well as with expanding opportunities for girls. Unfortunately, the "digital divide" still separates the technology haves and the technology have-nots—leaving our most disadvantaged children without vital knowledge and tools to compete with their more advantaged peers.

The Safe and Successful Schools Act of 2000 increases the Federal commitment to technology and closing the digital divide. The Act provides \$500 million for the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund program, to help the most disadvantaged school districts to provide educators with sustained, high quality training to integrate technology in their classrooms and provide students with the latest access to advantaged technology resources. The Act creates a \$50 million Go

Girls program to help encourage the ongoing interest in girls in science, mathematics and technology, and prepare girls to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees and careers in science, mathematics, or technology. The bill will provide new support for restructuring teacher education programs so that new teachers are proficient in the use of educational technologies and can integrate technology throughout their instructional practices. Lastly, it also creates new initiatives to develop and expand cutting edge technologies to improve teaching and learning, and to establish community technology centers in the neediest communities.

HONORING THE LOS ANGELES  
VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a very important organization, the Los Angeles Veterans Resource Center. The Vet Center is currently celebrating its twentieth year of providing services to local veterans.

For twenty years the Los Angeles Veterans Resource Center has provided outstanding service to our nation's veterans and their families. The Vet Center Program was established in 1979 out of recognition that a significant number of Vietnam era vets were still experiencing readjustment problems. Vet Centers are community based and part of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. They provide a number of important programs and services to assist veterans, particularly those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

I thank the staff and volunteers of the Los Angeles Veterans Resource Center for the invaluable services they have provided to community veterans over the past 20 years. As a veteran of the Vietnam War, I thank them for their contributions. You have touched the lives of many. The veteran community of Los Angeles is grateful for your services. I wish you continued success.

TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 11, 2000*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, today I support H.R. 4163, the "Taxpayer Bill of Rights 2000." Last month when the House Ways and Means Committee considered this bill, I raised concerns about the apparent lack of oversight of State taxing authorities that use Federal tax return information.

This bill recognizes breaches of taxpayer confidentiality at the State level and contains a provision to require that States conduct on-site reviews of all contractors receiving Federal tax return information. However, this bill does not address instances in which State agencies may have inappropriately disclosed Federal tax information. In a recent study on taxpayer confidentiality, the Joint Committee on Taxation found that "[A]lmost all of the surveyed State taxing authorities reported some

discrepancy of one type or another [in their efforts to safeguard tax return information]."

I have personally heard stories from taxpayers about how my state's taxing authority, the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB), has misused and inappropriately disclosed Federal tax information. Some examples include making IRS tax returns public without the consent of the taxpayer and using the threat of disclosure as a tool to try to force taxpayers into concessions. I have even been told that the State's training materials encourage misuse of penalties and other types of inappropriate behavior.

In my current position on the House Ways and Means Committee, I plan to do my utmost to ensure that States like my State of California are fully accountable for the privacy of its citizens. I hope to work with other Members of Congress to improve H.R. 4163 by requiring more safeguards and oversight of State taxing authorities' use of Federal tax information.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT  
OFFICER JOHN W. SCOTT, JR.

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the outstanding service to our Nation of Chief Warrant Officer John W. Scott, Jr., the commanding officer of Coast Guard Station Sabine Pass, Texas, who will be relieved of command on May 5, 2000, as he retires after 31 years in the Coast Guard. Throughout his career, he exemplified the Coast Guard's core values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty. He is a highly respected leader who is renowned for his commitment to the Coast Guard men and women serving under his command.

Chief Warrant Officer Scott has lived the multi-mission character of the Coast Guard. Very early in his career, he had to face the stark reality that the Coast Guard is an armed force when he was assigned to serve on a patrol boat in Vietnam. His career is also ripe with examples of dedicated services to the mariner. He served many tours ensuring the safety of maritime commerce by maintaining aids to navigation in our critical waterways. Additionally, he operated and commanded boats, cutters and shore stations that rescued people in distress, responded to environmental threats and maritime disasters, and ensured the security of our ports. Moreover, he enforced federal laws that enhanced vessel safety, deterred unlawful activity that threatened our national security, and brought those that had violated our laws to justice.

Over the past four years while he has been in command of Coast Guard Station Sabine Pass, I have seen firsthand the remarkable results of his efforts. During this period, Chief Warrant Officer Scott directed over 700 search and rescue cases that resulted in saving the lives of 400 people. He directed numerous maritime law enforcement missions to deter and intercept illegal narcotics and other contraband destined for Southeast Texas shores. He initiated operations that preserved our valuable natural resources and fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. He achieved these results by instilling his vision of excellence in his crew,

and through the seamless integration of active duty and reserve Coast Guard personnel into a cohesive team. At the same time, he also managed a comprehensive shoreside modernization project to rehabilitate several existing station buildings and to construct new waterfront facilities that will ensure the Coast Guard remains a robust part of the Sabine community for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Warrant Officer Scott dedicated his life to our Coast Guard men and women and our Nation. I am extremely honored that he and his wife, Judy, have decided to remain in Southeast Texas after his retirement. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Chief Warrant Officer Scott, an individual who has stood *Semper Paratus*—Always Ready—for the past 31 years to answer our Nation's call.

RECOGNIZING PROFESSOR  
KENNETH T. PALMER

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Professor Kenneth T. Palmer of the Department of Political Science at my alma mater, the University of Maine. I was fortunate to study under Professor Palmer, and learned many a lesson in politics from him.

Today, I want to thank him for one of the extra-curricular responsibilities he has taken on in addition to his teaching. For 31 years, Professor Palmer has coordinated the University of Maine's Washington Congressional Internship Program, which has been a rich source of interns for the Maine Congressional Delegation since 1958.

Ken Palmer has played a crucial role in the program's success. His oversight of the selection has helped to guarantee high quality interns who have made important contributions to our offices.

Approximately 150 University of Maine students have taken part in the program since its inception. I have been fortunate to have the assistance of 5 able University of Maine interns during my tenure here. Two of them have gone on to join my staff, which speaks highly of the caliber of students Professor Palmer has selected to participate.

I am told that many former interns report that the five months they spent in Washington constituted the most significant learning experience in their undergraduate careers. Graduates of the program have distinguished themselves in various careers, especially law, business, and public service.

Recently, Ken Palmer announced that he will be stepping down from his post and handing the reins over to another professor. He leaves large shoes to fill.

I am pleased to congratulate Professor Palmer on all that he has achieved with the Congressional Internship Program. He has set a fine example for other academic institutions to follow.

HONORING CHARLES F. RYAN

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a longtime friend and colleague, Charles F. Ryan, who will be inducted as President of the Bergen County Bar Association Friday, May 5, 2000. This is another milestone in Chuck's outstanding career, which is distinguished by his constant dedication to using his expertise in the law to improve the lives of people throughout Bergen County, New Jersey.

After serving three years of active duty in the United States Marine Corps where he rose to the rank of Sergeant, Chuck pursued a Bachelor's Degree at the University of Notre Dame. Chuck then came home to New Jersey, where he earned his law degree at Rutgers University.

Ever the activist, Chuck involved himself in the Young Lawyers Section of the Bergen County Bar Association, first as a member and later as its president. For four years, Chuck also co-edited the Young Lawyer Section's publication, *Hearsay*. The success of *Hearsay* led the Bergen County Bar Association to establish its own newspaper, *Barrister*, for which Chuck has been a valued contributor and author of the "Family Law/Around the Courthouse" column.

One common denominator in Chuck's work is that he constantly strives to expand access to the legal system and make it work better for those involved. Chuck represented the Bergen County Bar Association for five years on the Board of Directors of Bergen County Legal Services, and helped develop the Legal Services Board's annual Pro Bono Award Program which recognizes the contributions to the public good made by lawyers and law firms in the Bergen County.

In this same vein, Chuck founded the Alternatives to Domestic Violence Lawyers Referral Panel 14 years ago, and he remains a coordinator on the panel to this day. Chuck gathered lawyers from throughout Bergen County practicing matrimonial law, with particular experience and knowledge in the area of domestic violence, to provide emergency consultation and representation to victims of domestic violence. These lawyers agree to accept no fees, or work on a sliding-scale fee, according to the ability of the client to pay. With this expertise, the Bergen County Bar Association tapped Chuck two years ago to establish and co-chair the Bergen County Domestic Violence Pro Bono Lawyers Project, which has recruited and trained 89 lawyers to represent domestic violence victims. Fittingly, Chuck was honored last year by both the New Jersey State Senate and the New Jersey General Assembly for his tireless efforts on behalf of victims of domestic violence.

Though these accomplishments testify to Chuck's efforts in the professional arena, he is also an active member of the Bergen County community. Chuck is married and is the father of four children, and works in both private practice and as a prosecutor in Park Ridge, New Jersey. He is a former Commander of the Midland Park/Wyckoff Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7086, and is Director of the Mid-

land Park Chamber of Commerce. Chuck has also been a coach on the Midland Park Soccer, Little League Baseball, Little League Softball, and Girls Basketball teams, and has served as a guest lecturer on family law at Montclair State College and Rutgers Law School.

Mr. Speaker I have been fortunate to know and work with Chuck Ryan for the past 20 years and I am proud to count him as a dear friend. I wish him the best of luck on his induction as President of the Bergen County Bar Association, and expect him to thrive in that position as he has in every other task he has taken on in his life.

TRIBUTE TO JANET R. HENKE

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor and great pleasure today to recognize the extensive service of the Honorable Janet R. Henke to the people of the City of Whittier. Janet Henke has long been an active and dedicated member of the community and for the past eight years has served as a member of the Whittier City Council, including one two-year term as mayor from 1996 to 1998.

Councilwoman Henke has a long history of involvement in education and the arts. Through the Whittier Presbyterian Church, she served as a youth choir director for twenty-two years, starting in 1960, and as the preschool music director for seven years. From 1977 to 1986, Mrs. Henke worked for the Montebello Unified School District.

Janet Henke's community service has included serving as a program chair of the PTA; Ruling Elder of the Whittier Presbyterian Church; member of the Friends of the Whittier Hills; Co-Vice-President and President of the Whittier Area Education Study Council; President of the Shelters Right Hand; and as a director on the boards of the YMCA, Rio Hondo Temporary Home and the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts.

For sixteen years from 1973 to 1989, Mrs. Henke served as a trustee on the Whittier City School Board. She served as vice president of the board for three years and another three years as president. Mrs. Henke's recognized commitment to education was further evidenced by being elected four times, from 1978 to 1985, to serve in the Delegate Assembly of the California School Board Association.

Mr. Speaker, it takes dedicated individuals who are committed to serving their community—individuals like Janet R. Henke—to build strong, vibrant, livable towns and cities. The people of Whittier are indeed fortunate to have enjoyed the benefits of decades of generous public service by this outstanding American and leader. I am proud of my friendship with Janet, and extend to her the best wishes for every continued happiness and fulfillment.

ENACTMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S  
ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION  
ACT**HON. JAY INSLEE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2000*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the enactment of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). The Act requires operators of World Wide Web sites to obtain verifiable parental consent before collecting, using, or disseminating information about children under 13 years of age.

Representing a Congressional District which contains many of the world leaders in E-Commerce has given me a first hand opportunity to view the importance of privacy online. Consumers will not partake in business online without full assurance that their personal information will remain private. Though children are frequently more Web adept than their parents, they often lack the judgment and experience to deal with requests for their personal information, especially those request made from strangers. COPPA gives notice to both Web sites and parents of their responsibilities to protect children's privacy.

The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act prohibits unfair and deceptive acts in connection with the collection and use of personal information from and about children on the Internet. It will serve to enhance parental involvement in a child's online activities, protect the privacy of children in the online environment,

maintain the security of children's personal information collected online and limit the collection of this information without parental consent. Failure to follow the guidelines of the Act will result in fines in excess of \$10,000 and the possible closure of the Web site.

This act directly follows the five core principles of privacy protection, set forth by the FTC, which represent 'fair information practices': (1) Notice/Awareness; (2) Choice/Consent; (3) Access/Participation; (4) Integrity/Security; and (5) Enforcement/Redress. While the online industry has made great strides in protecting consumer privacy online, we need government intervention to assure the privacy of children.

A March 1998 FTC survey of 212 commercial children's Web sites found that while 89 percent of the sites collected personal information from children, only 24 percent posted privacy policies and only one percent required parental consent for the collection or disclosure of children's information. No parent would allow their child to wander the streets giving out their personal information to strangers, yet the aforementioned survey illustrates that this occurred continually over the World Wide Web prior to COPPA. With COPPA we have taken one large step towards putting parents back in charge of their children's personal information online.

We must continue to encourage parents to become involved in their children's online activities. Though the Web contains wonderful resources, there are also people online who prey on children and COPPA presents a useful tool to stop this from happening. COPPA

provides one important part of the solution to ensuring children's privacy and safety online, parental involvement and filtering tools such as Net Nanny can provide others. Net Nanny, one of the many high-tech firms found inside of my district, offers software that allows parents to regulate their children's online activities. Software of this sort lets parents choose the sites their children can visit, further bolstering parental control over their children's privacy.

COPPA may impose an increased cost on commercial children's Web sites, but these sites must realize that ensuring children's privacy is an essential part of their business. COPPA will provide an incentive to the industry to self-regulate, through self-regulatory watch dog groups such as BBBOnline, TrustE and the Children's Advertising Review Unit of the Council of Better Business Bureaus, so as to ward off future government intervention in the industry.

As a strong advocate of personal privacy, whether in the realm of banking and financial transactions or the World Wide Web, we must assure consumers that they have full control over their personal information. With no Constitutional protections over the sharing of personal information to third parties, in both the financial world and online, Acts such as COPPA and the Banking Privacy Act (H.R. 1929), which I introduced, are necessary safeguards of our privacy. Americans have a right to privacy in regards to their personal information, and I recognize the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act as enhancing this right.