1969. In 1975, he also cofounded the Methacoal Corp. of which he served as president. His coinventor partner, the late Austin N. Stanton, also of Bonham, TX, who died 5 years earlier to the day, was a renowned inventor who received numerous awards and is known as the inventor of microcircuitry—the precursor to the computer age—and the founder of Varo Corp.

Mr. Keller was a visionary in his field. His inventions likely will come to fruition in the coming years. These include a BiRotor device that will enable the direct methanol fuel cell to power automobiles, a water purification system that turns sea water into distilled water, an environmental oxygen system, the use of methacoal instead of coal to reduce smog and hurricane-proof, tornado-resistant homes. These are just a few of the technologies that Mr. Keller developed with his partner, Mr. Stanton—technologies designed to improve the quality of life for everyone.

Mr. Keller was a dedicated member of the First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, in Bonham, where he served as an elder, and he was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4852 in Bonham. He also was dedicated to his family and is survived by his wife of 57 years, Marjorie Maxine Keller; sons Jerry, Steve, and David; one grandson; two granddaughters; five great-grandsons; one nephew; and two nieces.

Mr. Keller will long be remembered for his many contributions to his country and community, and he will be sorely missed by his loving family and his many friends in Bonham. As we adjourn today, Mr. Speaker, let us pay our last respects to this outstanding American, Leonard James Keller, who envisioned a better future for all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to necessary medical treatment, I was not present for the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

MAY 8, 2000

Rollcall vote No. 146, on the motion to Suspend the Rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 296, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the necessity to expedite the settlement process concerning claims of racism against the Department of Agriculture brought by African-American farmers, I would have vote ''yea.''

Rollcall vote No. 147, on the motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 3577, increased authorization for the North Side Pumping Division of the Minidoka Reclamation Project, I would have voted ''yea.''

Rollcall vote No. 18, on the motion to Suspend the Rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 89, recognizing the Hermann Monument as a national symbol of the contributions of Americans of German heritage, I would have voted ''yea.''

KENTUCKY NURSES WEEK

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a group of Kentuckians who are truly dedicated to serving others. The qualities of our nurses are not limited to their medical skill and quick thinking, but also include their reassuring and comforting manner. Day after day, in endless settings, nurses are expected to be energetic, efficient, and attentive. This week is Kentucky Nurses Week, and we should all remember the nurses across the Commonwealth who have committed their careers to helping others feel better.

Each medical area has a network of nurses who devote long hours to offering quality care to people from each walk of life. It probably isn't difficult to remember a time when a nurse's skill eased our pain, or when a nurse's kind words or smile eased our apprehension. From simple to very technical procedures, nurses are prepared to help and offer service in one of the most healing fields.

The nursing profession is vital to our well-being and survival. I am proud to call your attention to Kentucky Nurses Week, May 6–12, and hope you will join me in thanking nurses sincerely for their hard work.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY HOSPICE

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, this is National Hospital Week, when communities across the country celebrate the people that put a human face and human touch on health care. This year's theme sums it up nicely: ''Touching the Future with Care.'' It recognizes the health care workers, volunteers and other health professionals who are there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, curing and caring, for their neighbors who need them.

An example of this dedication is the hospice at the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, Louisiana. The program won the American Hospital Association's prestigious Circle of Life Award, which recognizes innovation and improvement in end of life care.

The hospice at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, the largest maximum security prison in the United States, provides a humane and caring environment to the terminally ill. Inmates dying in the prison hospital can now spend more time with their families, be comforted by specially trained fellow inmate volunteers, and have their pain managed in a setting that is especially wary of the use of drugs. This innovative program not only gives the dying their dignity, it gives the inmate volunteers an unusual opportunity to connect with another person and give their own life some purpose. The program has also become a model for other prisons in Louisiana and across the nation.

Mr. President, I congratulate the hospice at the Louisiana State Penitentiary for its award-winning program.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF RICHARD POLZIN OF RACINE, WI

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a dedicated public servant and an accomplished law enforcement official. After 36 years of unwavering service to the city of Racine, WI, Police Chief Richard Polzin will retire on May 13, 2000.

Chief Polzin joined the Racine Police Department in 1964 and served in numerous capacities and was continually promoted to elevated positions until he was chosen in 1992 to head the entire department.

Chief Polzin has presided over much change in the department during his tenure. His focus on community policing and outreach is largely credited with the dramatic decreases in crime rates in Racine. He is a man that has earned great respect from those who have served with him and from the residents of Racine for whom he has dedicated his life.

On a personal note, Chief Polzin has served as a valuable resource for me in representing the people of the first district. Throughout his career he has had an open door policy and has participated in public events to further his involvement with those he has served. He has done so not for glory or praise, but rather to better serve as an effective and appreciated officer of the law.

Chief Polzin has maintained a unique personal sense of decency and common sense that has carried over to his professional career. It is with great sadness that the community bids him farewell.

I wish Chief Polzin and his family the best of success in the future and thank him for his 36 years of dedicated service.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB DYER AND HIS BRAVE ACT OF HEROISM

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, on April 21, 2000, a powerful natural gas explosion rocked a home in the Village of Justice, a southwest suburb of Chicago at 4:00 a.m. In a matter of seconds, the home of two distinguished senior citizens became engulfed in a blazing fire.

Luckily, their new next-door neighbor, ''Bobby'' Dyer, was quickly awakened by the loud concussion. Barefoot, Dyer rushed to the scene to see his neighbors trapped in their rapidly disintegrating house. Blocking their exit was a pile of debris from the former eave over the front door. Heroically, Dyer pushed aside the heavy aluminum/wood roofing material and helped the couple through their heavily damaged front door frame. After dialing 911, he supplied his neighbors with initial first aid and clothing.

By virtually all accounts, Bob Dyer's actions thankfully saved the lives of his two neighbors. Valentine and Eileen Michalowski received second and third degree burns, as well as heavy smoke inhalation. However, I understand that they will fully recover from their serious injuries.