

Bill is very active in the community. In addition to his work with the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, he continues to dedicate time as Chairman of the Board of the Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America; as a Member of the Board of Directors for the National Conference for Community and Justice; as Chair of the Advisory Panel for the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Electronic Media Division; as President of the Board for the Neediest Kids of All; and as a Member of the Board for the Cincinnati Arts Association. Bill has also helped to support Big Brothers and Big Sisters; Scouting for Food and Clothing; Family Cancer Care; and the United Negro College Fund, among others.

Bill and his wife, Marilyn Lewis Moll, have two sons and two grandchildren. All of us in the Cincinnati area appreciate Bill's contributions to our community, and we congratulate him on receiving the 2000 Silver Medal Award.

HONORING THE MAKE-A-WISH  
FOUNDATION

**HON. ALBERT RUSSELL WYNN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, in today I salute an organization that has been making wishes come true for two decades. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that fulfills the wishes of children fighting life-threatening illnesses. This organization's sole purpose is to bring happiness to children who confront harsh realities.

Eighty-thousand children worldwide have had their wishes fulfilled by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In Maryland alone, more than 1,200 children have had wishes fulfilled. This organization understands the fragility of life, and the wishes they grant are a true gesture of humanity.

I think fondly of the way they helped one of my own constituents. Chris Palmer of Cheverly, Maryland was diagnosed with Sickle Cell Anemia as a baby. The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-Atlantic, fulfilled a wish for Chris in November, 1998. I, along with Chris and his family are very grateful to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for all they have given him.

I am proud of Chris Palmer's courageous fight with his illness. I commend the Make-A-Wish Foundation's devotion in bringing happiness to children like him. I also salute the many volunteers and donors who support and make up the backbone of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

I invite those interested in learning more about the Foundation to contact them at 1-800-722-9474 or on the internet at [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org).

DAY OF PORTUGAL

**HON. GARY A. CONDIT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. CONDIT. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a very important community in the 18th Con-

gressional District. On Saturday, June 9, 2000, the Portuguese community will celebrate the Day of Portugal in Hilmar, California.

The Central Valley of California has long been a home for many from the Azores region of Portugal. Our communities have been enriched by the contributions of the Portuguese community. In honor of this distinguished celebration, three mayors from Portugal will be in attendance to participate in honor of the Portuguese culture. The mayors—Jorge Manuel Perira Rodrigues, President-Camara Municipal da Madalena; Manuel Joaquim Neves da Costa, President-Camara Municipal das Roque do Pico; and Eng. Claudio Gomes Lopes, President-Camara Municipal das Lajes do Pico—have traveled to the Central Valley of California for this celebration.

Many families have immigrated from Pico to the Merced County area over the years. Many have achieved prominent status in the areas of business, education, and politics. These families have maintained close ties to Pico and the Azores.

I consider it an honor and privilege to recognize the Day of Portugal and the special guests who have traveled so far to share it with our community.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

**HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in calling for the prompt scheduling of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

It is unconscionable that two years to the day since the shocking murder of James Byrd, Jr., we still have not been able to consider legislation that will help us better prosecute and, more importantly, help prevent the commission of hate crimes. Sadly, since the senseless murder of Mr. Byrd, the news has continued to be filled with stories of terrible crimes being committed against people just because of who they are—the murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, the murder of a Filipino-American postal worker, Joseph Illeto, and the wounding of children and others at a Los Angeles Jewish community center, and less than two months ago in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania the murder of five people including an African American man, a Jewish woman, two Asian Americans and an Indian man. And these are just the incidents that made the headlines. We never even hear about the thousands of other hate crimes that, for whatever reason, go uncovered by the media or are not reported to law enforcement officials.

As elected leaders, it is incumbent upon us to set an example not just in expressing our outrage about these crimes, but by putting new teeth into our anti-hate crime law enforcement activities. The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would ensure that hate crime protections are extended to all Americans and would provide resources to local law enforcement agencies who must investigate and prosecute hate crimes in their communities. We must take this important step to send the message that no one should have to live in fear simply for being who they are.

In fact, we came very close the past two years to getting the Hate Crimes Protection

Act enacted but could not in the face of Republican Leadership opposition. So, once again, I call upon them to drop their opposition and allow Hate Crimes Protection Act supporters to have the opportunity to make their case on the House floor and pass this critical legislation. Continued inaction is a disgrace to the memory of all hate crimes victims and to their families. It is also a disgrace upon us and who we are as a people.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF WEST  
POINT LAKE AND DAM IN TROUP  
COUNTY, GEORGIA

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 7, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor today to recognize the West Point Dam and Lake Project in West Point, Georgia. On June 17, 2000, the U.S. Corps of Engineers will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the West Point Dam and Lake Project.

Construction of the West Point Dam and Lake Project was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1962, for the purposes of flood control, hydroelectric power, recreation, fish and wildlife development and downstream navigation. Later, water quality was added as an authorized project purpose. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began construction of the project in December 1965. Impoundment of the lake began in October of 1974, and the project was dedicated with a formal ceremony held at the dam on June 7, 1975.

West Point Project continues to provide substantial benefits to the region. It protects residences and businesses along the Chattahoochee River downstream from flooding, and provides low-cost electric power during periods of peak demand. It also provides a water source for downstream navigation along the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, Flint Rivers Waterway.

There are over 10,000 acres of intensively managed wildlife habitat on the lake, as well as 38 public recreational areas for the outdoor enthusiast. The lake hosts an average of over 2 million visitors each year who come to enjoy multiple recreational opportunities such as camping, boating, picnicking, fishing, hunting, and more. It provides an enhanced quality of life to those who live on or near its shoreline.

West Point Project's 25-year history of public service is worthy of commemoration. It has been a pleasure to work closely with the citizens and authorities who keep West Point Lake and Dam Project in excellent condition.

The true spirit of public service and cooperation at West Point Lake is exemplified by the West Point Lake Task Force, chaired by Ken Manning and co-chaired by Dr. Art Holbrook and Dr. Harry McGinnis. The Task Force provides a vital, credible, and active avenue for constituents of the Seventh District to bring matters of concern to the attention of the Corps of Engineers. This group has also served our community by providing beneficial information to help as we strive to understand the complexities of this most valuable natural resource.

The cooperative spirit in which the Corps of Engineers works with our Task Force and with the local government, is exemplified by Eddie