

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THERESA MCCAIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Theresa McCain of Gardner, Colorado on her recent award. Theresa has earned the coveted National Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation. She is one of only four Colorado teachers to receive this high honor. Winners of the Milken Award are nominated by fellow teachers and winners are selected by a panel. They not only receive a cash prize but also a trip to Los Angeles where they participate in the Milken Foundation National Educational Conference.

Theresa began her career in education after earning a psychology degree from the University of Wyoming and then a teaching certificate from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado. Shortly thereafter, Theresa began her distinguished career at Gardner. The Gardner school has 89 students, ranging from preschool through eighth grade, and teachers are often required to use many different teaching methods to manage students with wide ranging differences in age. It is educators like Theresa that have helped this school become the wonderful learning institution that it is today.

Throughout her time in Gardner, Theresa has always considered the school to be a group of teachers working together and she had this to say about her individual award in a recent article by Margie Wood, in *The Pueblo Chieftain*: "I feel honored to be here in this school. There are such wonderful teachers that I've learned from. I go to all these other teachers for help, so it's not my award—it's their award."

Theresa has served her community, State, and Nation proudly. During her tenure in Gardner she has helped ensure that hundreds of Colorado's youth are receiving the best education possible.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress I congratulate Theresa on this distinguished and well deserved award.

Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS ST. BRUNO CHURCH

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my congratulations to St. Bruno Church located at 4751 South Harding in Chicago, Illinois. This past September, St. Bruno's Church celebrated their 75th Anniversary serving the Catholic community on the south side of Chicago.

In September 1925, Father Alexis Gorski was appointed as the founding Pastor of St. Bruno Church. This place of worship has been the center for its Catholic patron's hopes and direction through many years of economic disparities and wealth throughout the 20th century. A young church helped bring support to the community during times of depression, war, peace, and advancement.

As time progressed there was a need for structural improvements with the church, too, as its congregation was increasing in size. In August 1955, under the direction of Father Francis Modrzewski, St. Bruno dedicated a new church and four years later added a rectory.

As the need for improvements in the school arose, Father Szlanga proudly inaugurated the School Hall and gym expansion in 1978. To further improve the quality of education for its students, the current Pastor Father Joseph Grembala oversaw a multi-million dollar noise-abatement project for the school in 1995. And the church was once again renovated in 1998.

I wish to extend my heartiest wishes to the pastor, personnel, and patrons of St. Bruno Church as they continue to celebrate the past, present and future of their church community. My best wishes to St. Bruno Church on this wonderful milestone.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERALD YOUNG

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Iwo Jima brings to mind for most Americans the famous picture of the flag raising on Mount Suribachi and the impressive bronze statue that memorializes this historic event. The Marines fought one of the most brutal battles of American history on that porkchop-shaped eight-square-mile island—and brought honor to themselves and victory for our country.

One of the heroes of that conflict was a young, skinny, red-headed teenager from Texas—Gerald Edwin Young, otherwise known as "Red" to his Marine buddies. He served with the 5th Marine Division, 5th Engineer Battalion, "A" Company, 1st platoon. Gerald landed on Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945, day one of the battle. He had just turned 19 a few days before. Gerald had several duties—one of which was being a runner. Under constant fire, he would bring replacements to the battle front as needed, carrying out his mission time and again. He considers himself very fortunate to have survived the full 36 days of the battle—and did sustain a temporary loss of hearing after a grenade exploded near him. However, he refused the opportunity to be shipped off the island.

At the time of the historic flag raising, he tells the story that the first flag flown was too small and could not be seen so well from a

distance. As a part of the Company "A" team of runners, Gerald participated in relaying that message and the need for the larger flag, which is the flag we see in the photographs of that historic day.

Today, Gerald loves to talk and tell stories, but he has little to say about his war experiences, which are still painful to talk about. He does make it clear, however, that he is proud to have served his country as an enlisted Marine—and even at 75 years of age says he would do it again if needed. His grandson, David Riddle, is a Congressional Intern in my office and a student at Texas A&M University. He shares this story about his grandfather with much pride and admiration, and it is a privilege for me to have the opportunity to share this with my colleagues. So as we adjourn today, let us do so by paying tribute to this outstanding American and World War II Veteran—Gerald Edwin Young.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT J. STANZE

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, August 8, 2000 was a sad day for the City of St. Louis and our community. On that day, St. Louis Police Officer Robert J. Stanze was killed in the performance of his duty to protect and serve the citizens of St. Louis.

Officer Stanze was tragically shot and killed by a suspect in police custody. Bob Stanze was 29 years old, and leaves behind a young son and a wife, who is expecting twins. He was the 151st St. Louis Police Officer killed in the line of duty in the history of the Department.

No one becomes a police officer to make money, or to work easy hours. We all know that our officers work long hours, in dangerous situations, for a very modest salary. Nor is it fame that drives citizens to join the force. Rather, they join out of a sense of duty to their community and their unending belief that they can make a difference. Bob Stanze was one who was making a difference. His belief in duty and honor and justice formed his life, and was reflected in the way he conducted himself on and off the job.

Mr. Speaker, the loss of this fine young man is a great tragedy. His wife has lost his companionship—his son and unborn children have lost the love, guidance and example of a very special man. The entire St. Louis Community grieves with his family for their loss. Police Officer Robert J. Stanze has left a legacy of decency and bravery that won't be soon forgotten, and we are grateful to have had him among us.

● 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.

HONORING BILL O'DWYER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to recognize the extraordinary, Bill O'Dwyer of Grand Junction, Colorado. Bill recently passed away at the age of 74. While family, friends, and neighbors mourn this immense loss, I would like to pay tribute to a wonderful human being.

Bill was a valued member of the Grand Junction community and he will be greatly missed. Bill served his country admirably during World War II, fighting with distinction in the Battle of Iwo Jima. After returning a proud veteran he began O'Dwyer Electric in Grand Junction. While building a successful business, Bill began to realize the importance of civic duty and he turned to local government. For a number of years Bill served in the Grand Junction City Council where his accomplishments were great in number. On the top of the list was his work to build the current terminal at Walker Field Airport.

Bill's leadership abilities brought a number of wonderful things to the community of Grand Junction. When not serving the community in City Council, Bill could be found serving in a religious capacity, where he was Bishop for the Church of Jesus Christ and Latter-day Saints. Whether in church or in a council meeting, Bill always exemplified the qualities of a great leader and caring and generous human being.

Bill served his community, State, and Nation proudly. Though he is gone his memory will live on within all that knew him. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the U.S. Congress, I would like to pay tribute to this great Coloradan.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL RANDOLPH W. HOUSE, USA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to Lieutenant General Randolph W. House upon his retirement from the United States Army.

General House has served our nation with honor and distinction for over 32 years, and his performance throughout his career has been characterized by the highest standards of professional ethics and commitment to soldiers. General House was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1968 upon completion of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and graduation from Texas A&M University. During his military career, he completed the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the National War College.

General House's record of service is outstanding. Throughout his long and distinguished career, he has held numerous key command and staff positions, including the following: Helicopter Platoon Leader and Infantry Company Commander in South Vietnam; Armor Brigade Commander during Operation

DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM; Division Commander of 1st Infantry Division; Senior Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense, Dr. William Perry; Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army and Chief of Staff, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces, South Korea; and Deputy Commander in Chief and Chief of Staff, U.S. Pacific Command.

His assignments include Deputy Chief of Staff, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Polk, Louisiana; Commander, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Polk, Louisiana; Chief, Force Planning Integration Team, War Plans Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, United States Army, Washington, DC. He has also held a variety of important command and staff positions to include Executive Assistant to the Vice Director and Director of the Joint Staff, The Joint Staff, Washington, DC; Commander, 2d Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas and Saudi Arabia; Assistant Division Commander, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Carson, Colorado; Deputy Commandant, United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; Commanding General, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Riley, Kansas; Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Secretary of Staff for Installation Management, United States Army, Washington, DC; Commanding General, Eighth United States Army/Chief of Staff, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea. He culminated his career with his most recent duty as Deputy Commander in Chief/Chief of Staff, United States Pacific Command, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.

General House was awarded the Silver Star during actions by his brigade of the 1st Cavalry against elements of the Iraqi Republican Guards during DESERT STORM and received twenty-two Air Medals as a young helicopter pilot in the Republic of Vietnam. His other military awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Distinguished Flying Cross (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Soldier's Medal, the Bronze Star Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Commendation Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

General House has positively impacted our Army and our Nation. His leadership, innovative ideas and operational knowledge left an indelible, mark on soldiers, family members, the units he commanded, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, and the American people. Through superb leadership and the care and concern he demonstrated to soldiers and their families, he developed warfighters that accomplished every mission. During war, he led from the front, always by example, earning the respect and admiration of every soldier. During peacetime, he promoted sound political and military relationships among unified and combined forces and enhanced the quality of life of United States personnel and their families. General House also worked to produce improved relations with a large number of countries within the Asia-Pacific region and to improve crisis and contingency planning.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in wishing General House and his wife, Jeanie, all the best. We thank them for over 32 years of dedicated and unselfish service to the United States of America.

HONORING CHAIRMAN TOM BLILEY

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor my colleague, Chairman BLILEY, for his faithful service in the U.S. House of Representatives. As his many years as a dedicated public servant in the House come to a close, I am sure he is looking back at the many accomplishments of his time here. I would like to highlight his activity in one specific area—adoption.

Chairman BLILEY, as the adoptive father of two and co-chairman of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption, has championed adoption issues in Congress. Most recently he has worked to make sure pregnancy counselors are trained to provide complete and accurate information on adoption to women with unplanned pregnancies. He has also worked to increase the adoption tax credit to \$10,000 in relief for families dealing with the high cost of adopting children.

Adoption is a wonderful thing because it brings a positive, life-giving end to what could be difficult circumstances. The mother can place her child in a loving family, the child receives a warm and welcoming home, and an adoptive couple gets to wear one of the greatest titles in America—parent.

I applaud the chairman for his tireless efforts to help the birthparents, adopted children, and adoptive parents around this country. There are many children who have been blessed with parents and a loving home because of the work of Chairman BLILEY. I thank and salute him for all of his work and wish him well in retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS MAYOR EUGENE SIEGEL, VILLAGE OF CHICAGO RIDGE, 25 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my congratulations to Mr. Eugene L. Siegel, a friend and colleague from the Third Congressional District of Illinois, whom recently celebrated 25 years in public service as the Mayor of Chicago Ridge, Illinois.

Mayor Siegel is a hardworking, devoted man. He is a long-time resident of Chicago. Gene and his late wife, Virginia, have four children, Gary, Janet, Andrew and Matthew, and four grandchildren, Steven, Bradley, Victoria and Alexandria. Gene became involved in politics in 1963, and since then, has been involved in public service on both the local and state levels.

Mayor Siegel has always maintained an open door for all of his family, friends, constituents, and employees. He began working

in public service as the Deputy Coroner for Cook County Coroner's Office; a post he held for eight years. Throughout the 70's and 80's he served as the mayor of the Village of Chicago Ridge on a part-time basis. Then, in 1993, Gene was elected as the full-time mayor and has served in this capacity for the last seven years.

Mayor Siegel is a man for the people. As mayor, he has been actively involved with people of all ages throughout the community that he serves. For example, he was instrumental in the development of a Senior Citizen Center and the establishment of the Youth Service Bureau with a Youth Director to counsel families and their children.

As mayor, Gene has made remarkable economic, environmental and infrastructure improvements to the Village of Chicago Ridge. For example, he created a solvent tax base by implementing the development of both the Chicago Ridge Mall and the Commons of Chicago Ridge. He also was involved with the improvement of Ridgeland Avenue to establish commercial land use, the installation of an adequate water system with a two million gallon reservoir, and a plumbing station.

Mayor Siegel has been instrumental in bringing economic prosperity to the community. He has proven to be a true asset to his family, friends and community. I am proud to have Mayor Siegel as a colleague of mine in the district.

I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to Mayor Siegel and his family as he celebrates 25 years in public service. This is a remarkable accomplishment and Mayor Siegel deserves great credit for the vast improvements and economic development that he has brought to the Village of Chicago Ridge. My best wishes to the Mayor and his family on this wonderful milestone.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE BILL
COATS

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute today to the late District Court Judge, W. E. "Bill" Coats, of Tyler, TX, who died in April of this year at the age of 76. Judge Coats served Smith County for 30 years as judge and district attorney. He had practiced law in Smith County since 1954.

He was elected the first Republican district attorney in Texas, serving from 1963 until 1967. He also served as judge of County Court at Law No. 2, from 1975-79, and served as 7th District Court Judge to complete his 30 years of service in Smith County. He also was appointed by the Tyler City Commission in 1968 to serve as Municipal Court Judge. Judge Coats was a Mason and Shriner and served in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Survivors include a son, William Fred Coats of Tyler; daughters, Fonda Reeves of Tyler, Ardis Maxwell of Luling, and LeAnn Craven of Wills Point; a brother, James Coats of Whitehouse; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Judge Coats brought dignity and honor to the courtroom—and in all that he accomplished. His distinguished career and contributions to the practice of law and the judiciary in Smith County will be long remembered, and I would like to take this opportunity to join his family, his friends, and his peers in paying our last respects to this respected District Court Judge, Bill Coats. As we adjourn today let us do so in his memory.

HONORING TILLIE BURGIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MISSION ARLINGTON/MISSION METROPLEX

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor Tillie Burgin, executive director of Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex. Mrs. Burgin was recently inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame. Called the Mother Teresa of Arlington, Tillie Burgin works through Mission Arlington to provide the community's poor and underprivileged families food, clothing, shelter, counseling, childcare, healthcare, and a myriad of additional services.

Tillie Burgin originally founded Mission Arlington in August 1986 to fulfill her vision of "taking church to the community." Mrs. Burgin began with just two Bible study meetings in an apartment community. As Mission Arlington grew, however, so did Tillie's vision. The importance of meeting people's physical and emotional, as well as spiritual needs, became immediately apparent. The organization has since expanded to provide a number of social services to Arlington, bringing hope and opportunity to every person in the community.

I am proud of the work that Tillie Burgin and Mission Arlington do to strengthen the city of Arlington and its families. She has changed innumerable lives with her great energy and dedication. Texas is honored to be home to Tillie and her Mission. I cannot think of a more passionate, humble, or deserving woman to receive this honor. I salute her today.

TRIBUTE TO ST. CLEMENT
CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Clement Catholic Church in Center Line, Michigan as they celebrate 150 years of service to the Warren and Center Line communities with an anniversary mass on October 15, 2000.

Generation after generation has been blessed and served by St. Clement Catholic Church which has held a prominent place in their lives. Beginning in 1857, the Church has engaged in a series of reconstruction and expansion programs in order to accommodate the growing number of students.

Today, their present church is an outstanding edifice—adorned with stained glass

panes, a marble altar, and has a seating capacity, of 1600 parishioners.

St. Clement Catholic Church has benefitted from outstanding leadership, and the communities are most grateful to the service and dedication of members of the clergy, past and present. Education has been a priority and though there were periods of financial hardship, the students were always a priority.

Today, Father Ron Victor continues the tradition of caring and devotion to the communities of Center Line and Warren. I have thoroughly enjoyed attending many events at St. Clement including its traditional festivals and fish-fries. Over the years, it always has been a pleasure to meet and spend time with many parishioners of the church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Clement Catholic Church as they continue their mission of faith and service to the parish and broader community, and wish them continued success.

HONORING SHERI ROCHFORD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to commend Sheri Rochford on her outstanding commitment to education at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Sheri's contributions as Dean of Development have helped to foster the educational environment that Fort Lewis takes such great pride in. Her efforts deserve the praise of this body.

Sheri was born in Denver, Colorado, but her family soon made Durango her home. She attended school in Southern Colorado, graduating from Durango High School and then moving on to Fort Lewis College where she graduated in 1977 with a degree in business and history. Her graduate work was done at Lesley College in Cambridge, Massachusetts. After completing a master's degree in counseling, Sheri went on to do her doctorate with Harvard by attending classes on weekends and during summers in Farmington, New Mexico.

For the past five years, Sheri has been the Dean of Development at Fort Lewis College. After receiving her education, she joined the Fort Lewis College staff as a secretary for the sciences faculty. Her natural ability to lead and desire to succeed soon moved her up the ladder of advancement. Before becoming Dean, she served Fort Lewis College in the capacity of Director of Admissions.

Along with her duties at Fort Lewis, Sheri is also quite active in the community of Durango. She has served as president of the Durango Foundation for Educational Excellence and has been a long time supporter and member of the La Plata County Historical Society and the Animas Museum. Sheri has worked diligently for the community of Durango and Fort Lewis College. Her contributions have been great in number. As she continues to serve as Dean of Development, I wish her the very best. Sheri is one of our own in western Colorado and she has made us all very proud.

TRIBUTE TO FIREFIGHTER,
ROBERT C. BRANNON, JR.

HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert C. Brannon, Jr., a fallen firefighter from Bluefield, West Virginia, who passed away at the age of 43 after suffering a heart attack while battling a house fire.

Robert C. Brannon, Jr. lived his life with integrity, dignity and honor. He was a man known for his service to his family, his church, and his community. As an alumnus of West Virginia University and Bluefield State University, he was well-educated and well-rounded and used his education in business and engineering to help people in need. Mr. Brannon served as lieutenant and fire inspector for the Bluefield Fire Department.

Although Mr. Brannon's life was cut short, he lived it to the fullest. Before serving over 20 years with the Bluefield Fire Department he enjoyed growing up in Bluefield, West Virginia. As a boy, he played little league, wrote for his high school newspaper and was on his high school basketball team. As an adult, Robert C. Brannon, Jr. not only gained the technical knowledge to create and design web pages but also was skilled as an electrician, carpenter, stoneworker and painter.

Known by his friends and family as Bob, he was a loyal friend, husband and father. Bob, along with his wife Cindy, showed love and guidance to their two sons Jonathan and Jeffrey. He and his family were also active in Christ Episcopal Church in Bluefield.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing and honoring the life of service and dedication of Robert C. Brannon, Jr., and commemorate his sacrifice of service as a Bluefield firefighter.

EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY OF MARY
LOUISE QUIGG CALDWELL
PLUMER

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize one of my constituents and very dear friends, Mary Louise Quigg Caldwell Plumer, of Miami, Florida, who will be celebrating her 80th birthday on October 21, 2000.

Mary was born October 21, 1920 in Live Oak, Florida. Her parents moved to Miami when she was 6 years of age, where she was educated and graduated from Ponce de Leon High School in 1938. She served as editor of the school newspaper and was awarded the Woman's Club Cup as the "Most Outstanding Girl." Mary continued her education at the Florida State College for Women (FSCW), becoming a member of the Sophomore Council, the Cotillion Club and the Pi Beta Phi Sorority. She graduated from FSCW in 1940 and transferred to the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, where she was awarded the Valkyrie Cup as the Most Outstanding Coed of the University, graduating in 1942.

Moving to Atlanta, Georgia in 1942, she worked as the publicity director for radio station WSB. She returned to Miami and contributed to the War effort by working for the Red Cross as staff assistant to the Army Air Corps Redistribution Unit in Miami Beach, where she met her husband to be, Naval Lt. Commander Richard B. Plumer. He was graduated from Miami High School, Philips Exeter Academy and Princeton University (summa cum laude).

Mary raised four children (Richard, Penny, Christopher and Patience) and became actively involved in many worthwhile community projects. Among her accomplishments, she brilliantly led a committee to build the All Faith Chapel at Jackson Memorial Hospital in 1973, five years after her daughter, Penny, died there. She has had articles published in The Miami Herald and Reader's Digest. She was awarded the M.O.M. Cup in 2000 as the Most Outstanding Mother. She also earned a prestigious reference in Who's Who of American Women.

Mary's gracious manner and warm spirit has won the hearts of the people of Miami. She is admired and respected for her compassion and generosity to anyone who is fortunate to meet her. It is my sincere pleasure and great honor to join Mary's family and friends in wishing her a wonderful celebration and many more happy and healthy birthdays.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM H. AVERY

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my congratulations to the many tributes recently given to the Honorable William H. Avery, a former member of this House and a former governor of the state of Kansas.

On September 29, the post office in Wakefield, Kansas, the hometown of Bill Avery, was renamed in his honor, and the town honored their native son by proclaiming the event the "William H. Avery Day."

I had the pleasure of working with Bill Avery at the Department of the Interior in the early 1970's after his distinguished 10-year career in Congress and as the 37th governor of Kansas. After receiving a degree from the University of Kansas in 1934, he went back to his hometown to work the family farm. He started his public service career on the local school board in his hometown, and from there was elected to the Kansas State House of Representatives before moving on to Congress and the Kansas statehouse.

Bill Avery is a man of honor and integrity who has devoted his life to serving the public. He continues to reside in Wakefield today, and it's a fitting tribute to this fine gentleman that the people of his hometown have recognized his service to their community by renaming their post office in his honor. I join in saluting The Honorable William H. Avery.

HONORING MILES KARA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense sadness that I take this moment to celebrate the life of Miles Kara of Grand Junction, Colorado. Miles recently passed away in his home at the age of 84. Miles lived a life full of love and happiness and his legacy will long endure. As family, friends, and colleagues mourn this immense loss, I would like to take this time to pay tribute to a truly compassionate and wonderful human being.

Miles was born and raised on the western slope of Colorado, and would eventually raise his children there as well. Graduating from Fruitvale High School and Grand Junction Junior College, he went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Colorado in 1937. Upon graduation, he taught at Appleton High School for a few years and then met his patriotic duty by serving his country in the United States Air Force during WWII. After returning a proud veteran, he enrolled in Westminster Law School, graduating with a law degree in 1948.

His educational background easily prepared Miles for the many career choices he would make during his service to the people of the Grand Valley. After moving back to his childhood home, Miles practiced law for a number of years before working with a number of different organizations, all serving the Grand Junction community admirably. He began his service to his community as Mesa County Judge and moved on to work for US Bank as Senior Vice President and a Trust Officer. But Miles is best known for his work in education, where he served as President of the District 51 Board of Education and as Executive Director the Mesa State College Foundation.

Miles worked hard to ensure that Grand Valley's youth were receiving the best education possible. His devotion to his community was not only demonstrated by his work in education but also as a dedicated 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason. For Miles helping others was second nature. In a recent article in The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel by Rachel Sauer, his daughter Nancy best summed up her father in her own words: "you always love your family and take care of them first thing. And that people in trouble who need a hand should have one. If you could help someone you should help them. It's your responsibility as a human being."

Miles lived his entire life devoted to his family but always made time for others. It didn't matter the time of day; he was always there to lend a helping hand. Miles showed his love for his family and his fellow humans in his every action. His commitment to public service has changed the lives of many. Miles was a loving and cherished member of our community and he will be greatly missed.

Although he may be gone his memory will live on within the hearts of all that knew him. Clearly, America is better off for having known Miles Kara.

HONORING THE NASHVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS HISTORIC PERFORMANCE AT CARNEGIE HALL IN NEW YORK CITY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Nashville Symphony on the occasion of its historic first performance at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In particular, I would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of Executive Director Alan D. Valentine and his staff, conductor Kenneth Schermerhorn, Associate Conductor Karen Lynne Deal, and the Board of Directors including Symphony Campaign 2000 Chairman Martha Ingram. Although every person involved played a role in this effort, these individuals in particular gave of their time and energy to ensure the symphony would have the opportunity to shine in the national spotlight.

On September 25th the Nashville Symphony culminated an East Coast tour by performing for the first time at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Well over a thousand Middle Tennesseans attended the sold-out show including Mayor Bill Purcell, my wife Mary, and me. The stunning performance garnered rave reviews from the New York Times and the Tennessean proving to the nation what Nashville has known for years about the symphony's excellence in artistry and skill.

Now in its 55th season, the Nashville Symphony has entertained and educated thousands of individuals at performances across the nation. At home, the symphony has earned the respect of our community through years of perseverance through its varied history. With the assistance and commitment of individuals like Martha Ingram, the Nashville Symphony has graciously survived, and today boasts a roster of eighty-seven contracted musicians. In fact the group just released the new compact discs, "Howard Hanson: Orchestral Works Volume I," and "Charles Ives: Symphony No. 2," on the Naxos label to coincide with their Carnegie Hall debut.

The symphony is the largest performing arts organization in Tennessee, and regularly partners with the community and area schools to educate the public about symphonic music and classical music. Studies have shown that exposing children to music at a young age increases their ability to learn and retain information. In fact, my two daughters, Elizabeth and Rachel began playing the violin at the age of five. Both have benefited tremendously from their exposure to symphonic and classical music.

In the same way, each young person should have the opportunity to enjoy and participate in the arts. The symphony plays a vital role in educating young people in our area by offering a number of educational opportunities such as Ensembles in the Schools; Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest; String and Band Bash; AmSouth Classroom Classics; and Young People's Concerts at War Memorial Auditorium. The symphony reaches 80,000 children in Middle Tennessee each year. This commitment to exposing future generations to the arts is to be commended.

The history of the symphony dates back to 1920 when a group of Nashville musicians

formed the "Symphony Society" with its own orchestra and roster. Unfortunately that group fell to the wayside during the Great Depression. However, the cause was taken up again after World War II, when Nashville native and war veteran Walter Sharp returned home from the war on a mission to form a symphony orchestra in his hometown. Sharp succeeded and gained the support of the community when he founded the Nashville Symphony Orchestra.

Today the Nashville Symphony performs more than 200 shows per year. Many of these performances are in conjunction with other area arts organizations such as Nashville Ballet, Nashville Opera, Nashville Institute for the Arts, and Tennessee Performing Arts Center. In addition the symphony has performed with Luciano Pavarotti, Charlotte Church, Amy Grant, Vince Gill, and many other internationally renowned artists.

With an exceptional donor base and strong community support, the Nashville Symphony stands on a strong foundation to entertain and enlighten new generations in the 21st Century and beyond.

**"A TRIBUTE TO ERNIE ARMSTEAD,
TOP SENIOR VOLUNTEER"**

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, senior citizens across the country are setting an example for all of us of the value and virtue of volunteerism, but Ernie Armstead of San Bernardino is a standout even among these hard-working civic champions. The senior volunteers and those who work with them in San Bernardino County, who know the hard work of Ernie Armstead, were delighted this year when he was one of five recipients of the prestigious National Community Spirit Award from the American Association of Retired Persons.

Mr. Armstead, who is retired from the Air Force and the U.S. Postal Service, has for the past six years been organizing programs to educate the senior population about everything from Medicare to legislative issues to how to get help with tax preparation. He now serves as community relations coordinator for 36 area AARP chapters, and has been a member of the County Senior Citizens Affairs Commission since 1995. He is chairman of the commission's Senior Housing Subcommittee, and as liaison between the commission and AARP.

Among his accomplishments, Mr. Armstead created an innovative program in my hometown of Redlands known as Dinner and Dialogue, which brings together people in their 50s and 60s for a meal and discussion of issues that concern them. The popular dinners have brought in speakers from around the county to discuss senior programs and answer questions. It is one of many examples of opportunities Mr. Armstead seeks for seniors to create and expand networks across political, ethnic and age groups.

Mr. Speaker, all of the people of San Bernardino County benefit from the hard work by exemplary senior volunteers like Ernie Annstead. I ask you and my colleagues to join

me in congratulating him on being honored with the National Community Spirit Award, and wish him well in his continuing volunteer work in our county.

**A TRIBUTE TO SAINT JOSEPH
PARISH ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to sing praise for Saint Joseph's Parish in my hometown of Bay City, Michigan as they celebrate their 150th anniversary. The church has been the spiritual beacon of a fine neighborhood and, indeed, of the entire community.

Since the middle of the 19th Century, the church has stood as the centerpiece of the city's Northeast Side, drawing family and friends into the light of Christian love and charity.

The congregation's commitment to the community remains as strong today as it was when Father Kindekens first suggested in the late 1840s that Catholic settlers build a church in which he and visiting priests could minister to the needs of parishioners. By 1850, work began on the first Catholic church in the Saginaw Valley—Saint Joseph's.

In the beginning, just 20 families formed the foundation of the church. Six years later, the burgeoning parish counted about 2,000 members on its rolls and by 1868 that number had more than tripled. As the years went by, the church expanded to include additional buildings and educational facilities.

The church's mission remains unchanged today as leaders continue to offer strong spiritual and academic training to the neighborhood's families and many beyond its environs. In fact, the church holds a special place in my heart because it is the home parish of my wife, Vicki, who received her religious and early educational guidance under the tutelage of St. Joseph's clergy, nuns, teachers and parishioners.

Those who live in the shadow of St. Joseph's and those who have been touched by its influence cannot help but smell the sweetness of an angel's breath at their side and feel the hand of God on their shoulder.

HONORING RUTH BEASLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to celebrate the life of Ruth Beasley of Gypsum, Colorado. Ruth spent nearly a third of her life giving back to the community in which she was raised and her contributions are immeasurable. As family and friends mourn her passing, I would like to pay tribute to this fine woman.

Ruth was born and raised in Gypsum and spent her entire life in the Eagle Valley. Her fondest memories of her younger years include her first trip to Denver to compete in a

spelling contest as well as competing on her high school debate team. Her studies were always very important to her and this earned her the honor of valedictorian at her high school graduation.

It was not her achievements in her younger years that Ruth will be remembered for, rather it was her work for the communities of Gypsum and Eagle that will forever keep her name alive. For over three decades Ruth worked with the Eagle County Social Services helping citizens of her community overcome great challenges in their lives. She is also known for her dedication to the American Legion Auxiliary and her work with the Eagle County Historical Society Museum.

Ruth Beasley was very committed to her community. Her dedication and compassion for her fellow human beings will not soon be forgotten and will live on in the hearts of all that knew her. She was a loving person and she touched the hearts of all that she came in contact with. She will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF PEACE WEEK IN
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as this session of Congress races to a close, we often lose sight of some of the wonderful things happening at home in our communities, and this is especially true when Washington, D.C. is consumed by political battles. That is why I rise today to commend the remarkable city of Santa Maria, California, which I am very proud to represent, for its fourth annual Peace Week.

Mr. Speaker, two years ago, I stood on the House floor to congratulate Santa Maria on being named one of 10 All-America Cities. This high honor was justly granted to a city that has distinguished itself by its diversity and the fact that all the residents of Santa Maria work together to find innovative ways to solve their problems.

One glowing example of this community cohesiveness is Peace Week, which will begin tomorrow, October 13. The goal of Peace Week is to stress nonviolence and conflict mediation. Each day brings a focus on a new topic and allows community members of all ages and cultures to discover ways they can make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of their neighbors.

Examples of daily Peace Week activities include a candlelight march, nonviolence education, and children's friendship games. Participants will enjoy a free community breakfast on "Community Peacemaker Day" and a keynote address given by Clayton Barbeau. There will also be stress relief through massage and Reiki therapists, a workshop on healing racism, and an Ecumenical Musical Reflective Peace Service.

Mr. Speaker, Peace Week is the product of an entire city and its enlightened leadership. I want to pay special tribute to my friend, Sister Janet Corcoran of Marian Medical Center Mission Services, for her remarkable dedication and tireless work on behalf of her community and the precious cause of peace. She is a role model for me and a role model for us all.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE STAGGERS ACT

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago, on October 14, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed the Staggers Rail Act of 1980 into law. This landmark legislation transformed the nation's freight railroad industry from a state of physical deterioration and widespread bankruptcy to the modern system we have today that is the envy of the world.

In the 1970s, after years of federal regulation that did not allow the railroad industry to compete effectively with other modes of transportation, the railroads were in severe decline. Twenty percent of railroad mileage was being operated in bankruptcy. Capital investment was not being made. Infrastructure suffered from deferred maintenance, and accidents were on the rise.

The Staggers Act partially deregulated the railroads and freed them to operate in the free market system like other industries. It allowed the railroads to make their own business decisions, to establish their own routes, to set rates based on market demand and to invest in new technologies and infrastructure.

Our nation's economy has benefited enormously from the Staggers Act. Lower railroad rates mean consumers pay less for the goods they buy. Railroad customers have more money to invest in their own businesses. Fewer accidents mean a safer working environment for railroad employees.

Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago the enactment of the Staggers Act set the stage for the renewal of the railroad industry and today our nation's economy continues to benefit from this important law.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANK DAVIS' PARTICIPATION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OVER 60 HEALTH CENTER, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the participation of Berkeley activist and realtor Frank Davis in the establishment of the Over 60 Health Center in Berkeley, California.

Mr. Davis has been a resident of Berkeley for over 50 years and owned the property where the Over 60 Clinic now calls home. While Mr. Davis had many offers to sell his property at a larger profit, he rejected those offers to sell until he was moved by the idea and challenge of a combination senior housing and health care project. Mr. Davis sold his property to the Over 60 Building Project, which ultimately helped create this unique facility that combines a health clinic downstairs with affordable housing for seniors upstairs.

The Over 60 Building is a unique collaboration of three local non-profit organizations. Over 60, a division of LifeLong Medical Care, is the oldest community health center serving

seniors in the United States; the Center for Elders Independence is one of 13 nationally-acclaimed "Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly" (PACE); and Resources for Community Development is a developer of low-income housing in Alameda County. This partnership offers medical and community-based long term care services for low-income elders while allowing them to remain independent, socially active and live in the same community throughout their life span.

Mr. Davis is a native of Mississippi who came to California to "seek a better quality of life and to get away from discrimination." He is the current Chair of the Black Property Owners Association, President of the Tyler King Neighborhood Association, and remains active in helping to improve the quality of life for South Berkeley.

The Over 60 Building is truly an innovative model of care for seniors, quickly becoming a source of civic pride and a valuable resource for the citizens of Berkeley. I applaud the vision that Mr. Davis had to sell his property to this important project despite personal financial gains had he sold to for-profit developers.

HONORING SUSAN LOHR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Susan Lohr, on her recent award. Susan is one of two recipients of the Cranmer Award, sponsored by Colorado Open Lands. Susan is the co-founder of Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy, an organization that works to preserve family-owned ranchland in southern Colorado. Together with ranchers and community leaders the organization is attempting to preserve and protect over 20,000 acres of land.

Susan is no stranger when it comes to conserving farm and ranchland. She is currently president of a private land conservation consulting firm, Lohr Associates. She also recently retired as Director of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, where she worked for over a decade. Susan serves the Legacy in the capacity of Founding Director and Board Member Secretary/Treasurer.

Susan has worked very hard to ensure that family ranchlands are protected throughout southern Colorado. This dedication has helped a great number of people preserve thousands of acres of land and for that she deserves the recognition of this body. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the US Congress I congratulate Susan on this prestigious and well-deserved award.

Congratulations!

FLAWED ELECTIONS IN BELARUS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, October 15th, Belarus will hold parliamentary elections. Based on the run-up to the elections, the possibility of free and fair

elections simply does not exist. Belarusian strongman Alyaksandr Lukashenka—who illegally extended his own term in office—is once again attempting to dupe the international community into believing that there are viable electoral processes in today's Belarus. The reality is different.

The Lukashenka regime has not met any of the four conditions that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe set back last spring—namely, a democratic election law, an end to human rights abuses, access by the opposition to the state media, and genuine powers granted to the parliament. As a result, on August 30, the OSCE and other institutions decided not to send a full-fledged international observation team to Belarus. This decision could have been revisited if the situation in Belarus had improved. However, since August 30, the Lukashenka regime has denied registration to many opposition candidates on highly questionable grounds; detained, fined, or beaten over 100 individuals advocating a boycott of the elections; burglarized the headquarters of an opposition party; and confiscated 100,000 copies of an independent newspaper. My friend, opposition leader Anatoly Lebedka was physically assaulted during a commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the disappearance of opposition leader Viktor Gonchar and his associate Anatoly Krasovsky. I might add that another leader of the opposition, former Interior Minister Yuri Zakharenka, remains missing after having disappeared 17 months ago, and two leading opposition members, Andrei Klimov and Vladimir Koudinov, remain imprisoned on politically motivated charges.

Mr. Speaker, governmental interference in the election process appears to be rampant. There are reports that regional and local government executive committees have been threatened to ensure that government supported candidates will be elected. The registration process also showed strong signs of arbitrariness, with the rejection of a large percentage of candidates, especially opposition candidates. According to today's Radio Free Europe-Radio Liberty East-Central Europe Report, Belarusian authorities—in an attempt to counter the opposition's call for an election boycott—have begun urging early voting and even threatening reprisals if voters fail to go to the polls. Furthermore, in Brest, the government-controlled local press is publishing election materials devoted solely to one candidate. All of these and other incidents, Mr. Speaker, have contributed to an atmosphere highly obtrusive to free and fair elections.

Given the pre-election atmosphere, the international community will be hard-pressed to recognize the new parliament, which succeeds the old, Lukashenka hand-picked parliament that was not recognized by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and much of the international community. Moreover, the current election environment does not in any way inspire confidence that the presidential elections scheduled for next year will be democratic. Mr. Lukashenka would do well to keep in mind that, with the fall of Slobodan Milosevic, he becomes increasingly isolated as Europe's sole remaining dictator.

HONORING MR. JOHN HERNANDEZ

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Hernandez, one of Fort Worth, Texas' finest sons, in honor of his receiving the Ohtli Award from the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his lifetime service to the Hispanic community. There is no person more deserving than John Hernandez.

The Ohtli Award recognizes individuals of Mexican descent who live outside of Mexico who have dedicated the better part of their lives to "opening up new paths" to make it easier for future generations to follow in their footsteps. Mr. Hernandez has done this and much more for the Hispanic community of Fort Worth.

Born in Fort Worth in 1931, Mr. Hernandez graduated from Laner Catholic High School in 1951. Six years later, in 1957, he married his wonderful wife, Jeanette. Together, they have dedicated their lives to faith, family, and community.

Mr. Hernandez has tirelessly served Fort Worth's Hispanic community. He is a Board member of the Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and served as its Chair from 1991–1992. Mr. Hernandez currently serves as the Chair of the North Texas Unity Council of La Raza and as a Board member and Second Vice Chair of the Red Cross. He is a member of the University of North Texas School of Community Service's Board. Mr. Hernandez also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth and a Council Member at All Saints Catholic Church. As a Scout Master and Executive Board member of the Longhorn Council, he has been actively involved with the Boy Scouts of America for almost two decades. These are just several examples of his invaluable contributions to our community.

Paving the way for others to follow, Mr. Hernandez has helped tear down the walls of discrimination. He has always been a crusader for the betterment of the Hispanic community, never seeking the glory for himself, but instead for those around him. Our community is stronger for his presence and forever blessed for his dedication and devotion.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Hernandez, his wife of 42 years, Jeanette, his eight children, and fifteen grandchildren and wish them all continued happiness and success in their endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Hernandez embodies the spirit of community responsibility we all strive towards. His life's work makes America a better place to live in every day.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE ROMAN S. GRIBBS UPON RETIREMENT

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the end of an era in the government of my home state of Michigan. With the retirement of Judge Roman S. Gribbs, the people

of Michigan are losing more than just a Judge, they are losing a man who has dedicated his life to serving the people. His dedication and work over the years for the people of Michigan has been truly admirable and aspiring to many.

With over 45 years of service to his community, Judge Gribbs has left his mark on a countless number of lives. This loving husband and father of five children, began his career as professor at the University of Detroit in 1954. His distinguished career included many different positions within the legal profession. His jobs ranged from Assistant Prosecutor to Sheriff of Wayne County by 1969. He was elected Mayor of the city of Detroit serving from 1970–1974, during which he was elected as the President of the National League of Cities.

In the 25 years since he left the Mayor's office, Judge Gribbs has dutifully served the citizens of Michigan, first on the Third Judicial Court and then on the Court of Appeals. His service throughout his life is a testament to the man that he is, a compassionate, committed worker for the people. Such a public servant is one that the people should treasure and feel fortunate to have in our democracy.

The state of Michigan and our country have been beneficiaries of the generous and outstanding service provided by Judge Roman S. Gribbs. It is my great pleasure to honor him today, and to wish him a happy, healthy and productive retirement.

HONORING BILL TRAMPE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize Bill Trampe on his recent award. Bill is one of two recipients of the Cranmer Award, presented by Colorado Open Lands. He was selected by the Board of Directors for his work with an organization he helped to co-found, which works to preserve family owned ranchlands throughout the Gunnison Basin.

Bill co-founded the Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy in order to help maintain a tradition that has long inhabited Colorado. This organization is made up of ranchers and community leaders aiming to protect and preserve over 20,000 acres of ranchland that is family-owned in southern Colorado. Bill is a third generation rancher and this organization holds a place dear to his heart.

Bill's dedication to preserving land for ranchers is quite evident in his past work with a number of different organizations. Bill is an advisor to the Colorado State University Mountain Meadows Research Station, a member of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River District and has served as member and President of the Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District for nearly two decades. While his civic duties were great in number, he also found time to manage his family ranch, Trampe Ranches.

Bill has worked very hard to assist the ranchers and farmers of southern Colorado and ensure that their ranchland will be protected. Bill's dedication and hard work for his community has earned him the admiration of

this body. On behalf of the State of Colorado and the US Congress I congratulate Bill on this prestigious and well-deserved award. Congratulations!

HONORING MIKE QUERING FROM
THE SIXTH DISTRICT OF COLO-
RADO

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a constituent of mine from the Sixth Congressional District of Colorado, Mike Quering, and join others throughout the state of Colorado in recognizing the efforts of the Eighth Air Force and proclaim every October 8–14 as Mighty Eighth Air Force Week.

Mike is a member of the Eighth Air Force, which was formed and dispatched to England in 1942 to become the largest military unit in World War II, and the largest bomber force of all time. Over 350,000 airmen served in Europe and the Eighth Air Force has continued as an operational combat unit to this day with over one million serving our country in war and in peace.

In the one week period between October 8–14, 1943, the Eighth Air Force lost over 100 Heavy Bombers to enemy action over the skies of Europe, and despite heavy losses, many feel that this was the turning point for daylight strategic bombing. Targets during the week were as follows: on October 8th, over Bremen, Germany, the force lost 14 bombers and 3 fighters; on October 9th, over Anklam, Germany, they lost 6 bombers; on October 10th, over Munster, Germany, the Eighth Air Force lost 30 bombers and 1 fighter; and on October 14th, over Schweinfurt, Germany, the force lost 60 bombers and 1 fighter.

I think it is important, at this time, to point out that no Mighty Eighth mission was ever turned back due to enemy action—at a cost of 26,000 killed in action and over 28,000 taken as prisoners of war. The number of missing in action and wounded have even today not been counted.

The Eighth Air Force Historical Society, the largest single military unit veterans group in history, holds its annual reunions in the month of October and today 20,000 Eighth Air Force Historical Society members are seeking to inform future generations of the contribution and sacrifice made by their generation to perpetuate America's freedom and way of life.

The Mighty Eighth stands as proof to America and the rest of the world of the sacrifices that our World War II veterans made to ensure that freedom and democracy survive and flourish around the world.

And so, as many proud veterans do every year during the week of October 8–14, I rise to proclaim this week of October 8–14 as Mighty Eighth Air Force Week. I would also ask every Eighth Air Force veteran and friend of the Eighth to wear and display items identifying them with The Mighty Eighth to honor and remember their comrades and especially those who made the supreme sacrifice.

HONORING NATIONAL DAY FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON
TAIWAN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, October 10th, marked the National Day in the Republic of China on Taiwan. The so-called "Double 10"—the tenth day of the tenth month—commemorates the founding of the Republic of China on October 10, 1911.

This "Double 10" observance in Taiwan this year is cause for both celebration and sobriety. The reason for celebration is obvious. As every Member knows, Taiwan once again conducted a national election, this past March. Chen Shui-bian, the former mayor of Taipei and a veteran of the pro-democracy campaign in the 1980's, was elected president.

As the reins of government were transferred from one party to another, the final phase of Taiwan's democratic transformation was completed. And a remarkable transformation it has been over the past decade—a renegotiation of the "social contract" that was conducted without the kinds of chaos and confrontation that have attended such sweeping political changes in some other countries.

There are many heroes in the democratization of Taiwan. President Chen, for one; and, his predecessor in the presidential office, Lee Teng-hui, for another. The 22 million people of Taiwan, who have taken so readily to democracy and have participated so enthusiastically in the whole electoral process, are also heroes.

So on the occasion of this year's "Double 10," all of Taiwan and its many American friends can join in a celebration of democracy and in a renewed commitment to the principles of a free society and a free market economy that have proved so successful in Taiwan, the United States, and many other countries.

But, Mr. Speaker, this is also a time for sobriety. The past seven-and-a-half years have witnessed a fundamental shift in U.S. policy toward Asia. Without the benefit of a thorough strategic analysis or an informed national debate, there has been a concerted attempt to redirect U.S. policy into a China-centric focus at the expense of our other traditional allies.

The perception in international circles that Taiwan has been stigmatized as the "problem" in U.S./China relations was most dramatically reinforced during President Clinton's trip in July 1998 to the People's Republic of China, during which he implicitly endorsed the P.R.C.'s interpretation of the "One China" doctrine.

Concurrent with the ill wind from Washington has been the rapid and provocative buildup of forces in the P.R.C.'s People's Liberation Army. A member of Representative ROHRBACHER's staff, Al Santoli, traveled to the region during August and filed a report that was published by the American Foreign Policy Council. Among Mr. Santoli's key findings:

The PLA's modernization and joint war fighting capabilities are developing at a rate far more rapidly than the Pentagon's previous predictions. The Nanjing Region exercises have showcased the PLA's new high-

tech capabilities, based on U.S. military tactics with information technology and weapons systems purchased or stolen from the U.S., Russia, and Israel.

During ongoing large-scale military exercises, China has demonstrated significant new joint-service war fighting skills "under high-tech conditions" that are steadily altering the balance of power in the Taiwan Strait . . . The PLA's doctrine of "asymmetrical" warfare emphasizes paralyzing the high-tech strength of the U.S. and our allies, through attacks on military, economic, and governmental computerized information systems.

Mr. Speaker, there is much more that could be said. I will leave it simply at this: No one can predict with certainty when the hour of maximum danger will come, but it is entirely possible—if present trends are permitted to continue much longer—that the candidate we elect as President next month will be the man who will eventually be confronted with a choice between defending Taiwan and its democracy or appeasing Beijing and thereby sacrificing U.S. strategic interests in Asia for generations to come.

So during this year's observance of "Double 10," let us celebrate what has been achieved in Taiwan—the victory of democracy and the blessings of a free society. Let us also be resolved to do whatever is necessary to protect Taiwan and to preserve its way of life. In standing by Taiwan, we are also standing up for ourselves.

HONORING DR. MURRAY PRITCHARD
OF WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate a very special man, Dr. Murray Pritchard of West Plains, Missouri. Dr. Pritchard was recently named Outstanding VA Health Care Provider of the Year at the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am very pleased to honor the distinguished career of Dr. Pritchard and all the contributions he has made to veterans in Southeast Missouri.

Dr. Pritchard served this country in the Army during World War II. He was captured in North Africa in February 1943, and spent two years in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. When Dr. Pritchard returned from the war, he went to medical school and became a doctor of osteopathy while also completing a masters degree in public health administration. After several years in private practice, our community was lucky to have him join the staff of the John J. Pershing VA Medical Center in Poplar Bluff in 1973. Dr. Pritchard worked in the outpatient department until he retired in 1985.

But retirement didn't last very long. Soon Dr. Pritchard helped lead the innovative process of starting the VA Mobile Clinic program. Many veterans in rural America live 100 miles or more from the closest VA medical center. Traveling to see a doctor, to get a check up, or even to get necessary prescription drugs is a hardship to these men and women. But Dr. Pritchard and the folks at the Poplar Bluff VA wouldn't let distance stop them from giving top-notch care to veterans. If the vets couldn't

go to the clinic, Dr. Pritchard made sure the hospital would come to them. On the road about 4 days a week, Dr. Pritchard and his wife make sure that no veteran is left without the necessary, quality health care they deserve and were promised.

Dr. Pritchard not only serves the veterans of Southeast Missouri, but he also is concerned with the well being and health of all Americans. When Hurricane Andrew hit southern Florida, Dr. Pritchard headed up a team of health care professionals who took their mobile clinic to help treat the victims of the hurricane. His team helped ease the suffering of about 150 hurricane victims a day in Florida. And if that isn't enough, Dr. Pritchard has many other notable accomplishments such as: holding the post of past commander of the Missouri Association of Former POW's, serving as president of the Missouri Society of American College of General Practitioners in Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, and as past president of the Association of Military Osteopathic Surgeons.

Dr. Pritchard is a dedicated doctor, and a kind and generous human being who answers the call of service to his fellow man.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Murray Pritchard is more than worthy of receiving the honor of Outstanding VA Health Care Provider, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me today in recognizing this truly remarkable man.

HONORING ORLYN BELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a remarkable human being, Orlyn Bell. For over three decades Orlyn has fought hard to ensure that the water of western Colorado is being distributed correctly and fairly. Orlyn is retiring as the Division 5 water engineer, a position he has held in Glenwood Springs for just over 17 years. As Orlyn moves on to bigger and better things, I would like to take this opportunity to commend him on his service to the western slope of Colorado.

Orlyn began his career in engineering as far back as 1965 where his summer job had him measuring the flow of a major flood of the South Platte River after it hit Denver. His work during this traumatic time earned him not only a citation from the Governor, but also sparked an interest that would soon become the focus of his professional career. In 1968 he graduated from the University of Denver, with a degree in civil engineering. After spending a few years working for the Washington Highway Department he moved back to Colorado where he began his legendary career in the state engineer's office.

For almost two decades now, Orlyn has been one of seven engineers in charge of the seven different major river basins. The area in which he has represented is vast in size and the demand for water is much larger than the actual supply. This large area spans from the Continental Divide in central Colorado all the way through the Grand Valley on to the Utah border.

The battle for water in Colorado is one that has sparked a great deal of controversy over

the years, but Orlyn was able to manage these issues fairly and earn the respect of both eastern and western Colorado. Orlyn's contribution to the citizens and farmers of western Colorado is immeasurable. Orlyn you have served your community, State and Nation proudly and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

TEACHERS' APPRECIATION DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, a proclamation signed by Acting-Governor Madeleine Bordallo on September 1, 2000, designated the month of September as "Teacher's Recognition Month." Three years ago, the Guam Legislature designated September 28th as "Teachers' Appreciation Day" in order to pay tribute and acknowledge the important role played by teachers on the island of Guam.

Intended to coincide with the birthday of the Chinese philosopher, Confucius, the month-long celebration was set aside to honor those who have dedicated themselves to the teaching profession. Regarded as one of the world's greatest philosophers and teachers, Confucius has been given credit for the development of public education. Hence, for the past three years, the Confucius Society of Guam, under the leadership of its president, Robert Kao, has worked towards raising the community's awareness regarding the importance of teachers to every community.

In this year's events, the island of Guam chose to celebrate the legacy of its teachers by honoring current teachers whose families include generations of classroom teachers among its members. Among those honored are Phyliss L. Leon Guerrero, Debra R. Mariano, and my very own daughter, Sophia R. Underwood.

Phyliss, who is from George Washington High School in Mangilao, has been a teacher for eight years who has four generations of teachers in her family. Her great-grandmother, Asuncion Martinez Cruz, taught at a school run by the Spaniards in the 1890's. Her grandmother, Vicenta S.A. Leon Guerrero, taught in schools established by the Americans from 1922 until 1962. She is the daughter of Virginia Artero Leon Guerrero, an elementary school teacher who taught for 14 years, and Wilfred Leon Guerrero, the former president of the University of Guam.

Debra, a four-year veteran, teaches at Agueda Johnston Middle School. Her grandfather, Cayetano A. Quinata, served as a teacher and principal at several elementary schools for a period of 39 years. Her grandfather, Alejo L.G. Quinata, taught under the Japanese during the occupation of Guam during World War II. Her mother, Mary Q. Mariano, taught at P.C. Lujan Elementary, Price Elementary and the Guam Community College.

My daughter, Sophia, has been teaching for more than five years. She also comes from a long and solid line of teachers. My grandfather, James H. Underwood, taught English at night school soon after the Americans took possession of Guam in 1898. He taught until 1905. My parents, John and Esther, as well as my wife, Lorraine, and I have been teachers.

Mr. Speaker, public officials, such as ourselves, do not officially gain the title "Honorable" until the constituents we serve grant us their mandate through our election. It was not until 1992 that the title was granted to me. However, I firmly believe that I, together with my colleagues in the field of education, have earned the title long before—by having been a teacher, a member of a most honorable profession.

Over the years, teachers have insured a bright future through the education of our youth. Teachers have been willing to share their knowledge and adjust to meet the needs of students. In our present society where the family unit is under constant exposure to external and internal conflicts and pressures, we look toward our teachers to be role models who play a vital role in the development of every child placed under their supervision. On Teachers' Recognition Month and, especially, on Teachers' Appreciation Day, I commend and congratulate my esteemed colleagues in the field of education, the teachers of Guam.

PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE SKEEN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety legislation, and also to implore the House of Representatives to pass it quickly and send it to the President for his signature.

In August, in my Congressional District in New Mexico, a pipeline explosion took the lives of eleven family members who were camping in an area located south of Carlsbad along the Pecos River. This terrible tragedy shook our state to the core. I visited the site of this disaster and I cannot begin to describe what I saw and the impact it has had on the lives of countless citizens in New Mexico.

This legislation is bipartisan and it passed the U.S. Senate with no opposition. This bill will help us avoid these terrible accidents in the future. Congress does not have time to play politics with this legislation. We don't have time for extended conferences on this legislation. Those who feel more is needed in this bill can introduce those changes next year. If we don't pass this bill we will have no legislation for at least another two years. It is unconscionable for this Congress not to pass legislation this year. To those who would vote against this legislation I say shame on you. This bill imposes new pipeline testing requirements on pipeline operators. It imposes higher penalties for safety violations and invests in new technology to improve pipeline safety. This bill increases the funding for pipeline safety as well as increasing state oversight and local government input. President Clinton supports this bill, Senate Democratic Senators support this bill.

I want to thank Chairman SHUSTER and the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for all of the hard work they have done in bringing this important legislation before us. We need to pass S. 2438.

CONGRATULATING CLAIRE
HOWARD

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Claire Howard, one of my constituents, on her appointment as the President-Elect of the United States Serra Club. In 2001, Mrs. Howard will become the first woman President of the USA Council and also the first in the history of Serra International.

Mrs. Howard is a charter member of the Bethlehem Serra Club and over the years has served as an active member on almost all of the standing committees. Of particular note is Mrs. Howard's service as the Coordinator of the Serra Clubs of Allentown Diocese's "Life/Vocation Awareness Weekend." The weekend offers any adult who would like to explore the possibilities of entering the priesthood or a religious order a time to reflect, pray and interact with priests. In addition to her work with the Serra Club, Mrs. Howard is an active member of the Morning Star Rotary Club, Junior League of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem Palmette Club, and the Bethlehem Quota Club.

I applaud Mrs. Claire Howard on her new appointment and wish her the best of luck in this new assignment.

HONORING CECIL WALT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to honor the life of Cecil Walt. Cecil recently passed away at age 98. Cecil spent nearly half of his life serving the Grand Valley in a number of different capacities. As family and friends mourn this great loss, I would like to pay tribute to this remarkable human being.

Cecil moved to the Grand Valley in 1944, settling in Grand Junction, Colorado. During his time on the western slope he owned and operated five different automotive stores, but was best known for his work for the community. It was not long after residing in Grand Junction that he decided to run for mayor and was elected. His work for the city will forever be enshrined along the Main Street Shopping Park, which he was instrumental in constructing.

Cecil's work to improve the city of Grand Junction earned national attention in 1963 when *Look Magazine* named it an "All-American City." Cecil was also very active in crusades to protect western slope water rights and to ensure that the Eisenhower Tunnel was built where it stands today, to ensure motorists safe passage from the western slope on into Denver.

Former Colorado State Senator Tilman Bishop, in recent article by Zack Barnett in *The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel*, had this to say about former Mayor Cecil Walt, "He was a visionary, he was always putting things together for the future."

Cecil worked very hard to ensure that the Grand Junction community was a better place for all to live. He served his community, State,

and Nation admirably and he will be greatly missed.

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION (TREAD) ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the so-called "TREAD Act" and I want to commend Chairman BULEY, Chairman TAUZIN, Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member Mr. DINGELL, Mr. LUTHER, and the many Commerce Committee colleagues who have worked very hard on this bill for bringing this legislation to the floor at this time. Hopefully, with time running out we can convince the Senate to similarly take up legislation on this issue and we can get a bill to the President's desk before Congress adjourns.

This legislation was initially prompted by the Firestone recall of some of the over 6 million tires used primarily on the Ford Explorer. As has become readily apparent during the course of our congressional investigation, both Firestone and Ford knew that there were problems years before they told the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) or the American public.

This legislation has many provisions designed to enable NHTSA to perform its job better and new measures to increase the safety of American motorists and give consumers needed information. The bill includes an increase in civil penalties, consumer protections against the resale of defective or recalled tires, and a mandate to NHTSA to update the tire safety standards, which haven't been updated since 1968.

In addition, I successfully amended the bill in Committee to require NHTSA to conduct dynamic testing for rollovers. The fact is that these SUVs, minivans, light trucks represented in 1997 some 46 percent of all new vehicle sales in the United States and they are obviously very popular vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, according to NHTSA, rollovers are the second most common type of fatal crash after head-on crashes for all cars—but it is the most common type of fatal crash for light trucks, which includes SUVs, pickup trucks and minivans.

And we know today that sport utility vehicles have a 3 times higher probability of rolling over than passenger cars due to their higher center of gravity. And we also know that although traffic deaths reached an all time record low last year, rollover deaths continued to climb—to over 10,000 fatalities last year. In addition to fatalities, rollovers cause 55,000–60,000 serious injuries each year.

In my view, given the nature of the types of vehicles on our roadways and auto showrooms today, this dynamic rollover testing is overdue and I believe it will enhance information available to consumers purchasing vehicles for the families.

The rollover amendment I successfully added to the bill in Committee tasks NHTSA with the duty to develop, as part of a rule-making, a consumer information program that best disseminates the dynamic rollover test re-

sults to the public. Obviously it will do little good to the consuming public if the rollover test results are not publicized and disseminated widely. Information is the consumer's best friend—and I believe that consumers would be well-served when contemplating SUV purchases, for instance, at the showroom, to have such test results readily available to them. In addition, informational brochures and Internet websites can also be a valuable resource for consumer information.

As the rollover provision makes clear, the rollover test requirement does not apply to recreational vehicles designed to provide temporary residential accommodations. My intent in offering this provision was to deal primarily with SUVs, minivans, light trucks—those vehicles that many consumers are purchasing today that have a elevated center of gravity, giving these vehicles a proclivity to rollover in certain circumstances. Nor is this provision intended to apply to multiple stage vehicles such as specialized delivery trucks or custom van conversions produced in extremely limited quantities. These multistage production vehicles are produced by small volume customizer operations. This production "niche" is filled by small producers who buy incomplete vehicles (chassis) from the large vehicle manufacturers and mount a specialized body and related equipment on these limited volume vehicles. Specialized delivery vehicles below the 10,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight rating such as ambulances, bread trucks and other custom made, work-related vehicles do not have a mass market and are not the focus of this provision.

In addition, I also amended the legislation during Commerce Committee consideration to add a requirement that tire pressure warning systems become standard in vehicles. Such a standard could help save lives, help conserve fuel, and prolong the integrity of tires.

When NHTSA looked at this issue in 1979 and 1980, it decided at that time that the technology was too expensive. In the last 20 years, there has been significant development in this technology and the cost is much less. In 1981, NHTSA thought that it would cost around \$15 per vehicle and today our information is that it may cost merely \$2.50 per car—for all 4 tires. So this technology is but a fraction of the cost that it was when this was last formally considered by NHTSA.

For example, new technology allows modifications to the antilock brake system to measure the spin rate of the wheel and this is the technology that has now become a standard feature on the 2000 Sienna van.

As I understand it, the way the technology works is that the device monitors each tire and relays information to a warning mechanism inside the car. When the monitor finds a tire that is under-inflated the warning light or sound comes on to indicate a tire pressure problem—just as a warning light flashes when a motorist's brake fluid runs low today.

I believe this modest safety addition will save many lives. It is a provision that responds to the testimony we received from the industry that they expect American motorists to be cognizant of the tire pressure of their vehicles, adjusting it from time to time to insure proper inflation.

This is life-saving technology and I am heartened to see that this mandate for in-vehicle, tire pressure monitoring devices is now part of this legislation as it is considered today on the Floor.

In addition, the bill contains a third amendment which I authored, the "early warning" provision. For the first time, companies dealing with NHTSA will be on notice that they must report information bearing on public safety much earlier than they have in the past. In particular, manufacturers will have to report incidents involving fatalities or serious injuries alleged, or proven, to have been caused by a possible defect. This provision applies both within the United States and in foreign countries where the product sold in that country is also sold in the United States.

Everything we have heard in the last four weeks indicates we desperately need this type of provision. I have worked hard with the Republican majority to arrive at a workable and effective provision and the legislation we bring to the Floor now incorporates this important safety improvement.

Finally, I believe we need to look at other provisions and other issues more closely as we proceed on this bill as well as other NHTSA-related bills in the future. For instance, I believe Congress must ensure that NHTSA has sufficient financial and personnel resources to fully gauge important safety issues as they materialize. In the case of the Firestone/Ford fiasco the agency maintains it did not have sufficient information to trigger an investigation sooner. Additional staffing and funding for NHTSA earlier may have helped NHTSA notice a problem sooner and thus have saved lives.

After all, protecting the public and making sure that the agency charged with automotive safety issues has the resources to do its job is really where the "rubber meets the road" on this policy issue and I hope that we can rectify any deficiencies in such funding before Congress adjourns this year.

I again want to commend Chairman BLILEY, Chairman TAUZIN, Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member JOHN DINGELL, Representatives LUTHER, GREEN, and other colleagues who have worked very hard on this bill and yield back the balance of my time.

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL—
PROJECT OF AFTERSCHOOL AL-
LIANCE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, many times we hear, "Our children get into trouble because their time is not occupied with worthwhile pursuits." Today, I want to recognize a project that has shown great success in dealing with that very problem.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform to my colleagues about a project that helps bridge the gap between childhood and the adult world. "Lights on Afterschool" is a project of the Afterschool Alliance. It is a nationwide event, taking place today, October 12, 2000, to recognize the critical importance of quality after school programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities. The project is sponsored by J.C. Penney Inc. and the National Community Education Associa-

tion. Lights on Afterschool will spotlight innovative and effective after school programs. Parents, community and business leaders, elected officials, and the media will have an opportunity to see firsthand how after school programs help our children discover the heroes within themselves!

Mr. Speaker, the Afterschool Alliance was launched September 1999 by U.S. Secretary of Education, Richard Riley. It is a coalition of public, private, and nonprofit organizations dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of after school programs. The goals of the project are to increase funding for after school programs and to ensure top quality resources for all participants in after school programs. The alliance was created to facilitate public awareness and advocacy work. Its primary purpose is to offer positive choices to the children of our nation.

After school programs provide safe, structured, and supervised activities, utilizing the physical resources provided by our schools, without taxing or overburdening the existing educational system. Statistics indicate that 15 million children are left unsupervised during non-school hours, and juvenile crime is three times higher in the period after the school day ends. The time spent in these after school programs means less time spent unsupervised, and more time spent challenging and developing a child's mind. Students who participate in after school programs are only half as likely to use drugs, and a third as likely to become teen parents. The after school programs teach respect for others, and integrate valuable social skills into lessons. After school programs now exist in thirty percent of K-8 schools. This is a tremendous beginning, yet it leaves over two-thirds of potential sites not used during this critical period of time. The Afterschool Alliance wants to ensure all children will have access to these programs by the year 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the efforts of the Afterschool Alliance and wish them success on their project, Lights on Afterschool.

IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
PRESCRIPTION DRUG RE-
IMPORTATION PROPOSAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, prescription medicines have become a vital part of our health care system, and it is our responsibility to pass a meaningful prescription drug benefits through Medicare so that seniors will have access to the treatments that their doctors prescribe. Unfortunately, the drug reimportation language that the Republican leadership included in this bill falls far short of this important goal.

Prices for the 50 most prescribed drugs for senior citizens have been going up, on average, at twice the rate of inflation over the past six years. As the price of prescription medicines has soared, our nation's elderly and disabled populations have found it harder and harder to afford the treatments that their doctors prescribe.

Although it cannot replace a real prescription drug benefit through Medicare, drug reimportation holds great promise for reducing prescription drug costs. However, the Republican reimportation provision is filled with loopholes that will prevent seniors from seeing any real savings.

The Republican proposal contains several provisions that unnecessarily restrict the supply of reimported prescription drugs and increase their cost. First, they limit the medicines eligible for reimportation and the number of countries from which they can be imported. Second, drug companies have the option of refusing to allow reimporters to use FDA-approved labeling for their products. This allows these companies to increase the price of reimported drugs by charging outrageously high prices for the use of the label. Third, this language does nothing to prevent pharmaceutical companies from discriminating against US consumers by forcing restrictive contract terms on foreign distributors.

Finally, the Republican proposal is not permanent. By allowing this legislation to sunset after five years, the Republicans are giving pharmaceutical companies yet another opportunity to kill prescription drug legislation that they do not like.

The Democratic proposal provides seniors with access to lower price drugs, subject to strict safety testing, without any of these harmful loopholes. Seniors deserve real prescription drug savings, not another empty promise from Republicans.

TRIBUTE TO JACK KILBY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Jack Kilby for winning the Nobel Prize for physics this Tuesday.

Jack Kilby, at age 76, is a modest man who has not found himself wrapped up in today's technological world. This modest man, who began his journey in physics 42 years ago, probably had no reason to believe he would be in this position today. Under Mr. Kilby's belt, he has 60 patents. He is also the co-inventor of the pocket calculator.

His discovery—the integrated circuit—in September of 1958 at the headquarters of Texas Instruments Inc. in Dallas, Texas has been placed into cell phones, digital music players, computer hard drives, and other various electronic devices, thus decreasing the cost of electronics.

Mr. Kilby still resides in Dallas, Texas, a technology powerhouse that will forever be linked to his success. This one man and his chip are the spark that made Texas Instruments the giant company it is today. So, I thank him and congratulate him for his achievements.

MRS. DOROTHY M. MOODY SELECTED AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR THE BOWDEN CHAPTER OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Ms. Dorothy M. Moody, who recently received the Woman of the Year award from the Bowden Chapter of Business and Professional Women. Her service to the community and dedication makes this award appropriate. Ms. Moody attended St. Phillips College, a Historically Black College, where she studied business and secretarial applications. These skills led to a diverse range of jobs, from secretary for the Afro-American Insurance Company to secretary for the San Antonio Independent School District, and today she is currently employed at the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Ms. Moody has exhibited leadership and faithfulness in personal development through the college Bible courses she teaches at the church.

In her position as chair of the Annual Woman's Day Observance, Ms. Moody exceeded her financial goals and suggested that the surplus be donated to the BBJ Memorial Foundation Inc. Compassion, goal-oriented and generous are standards that Ms. Moody sets for anyone to follow. With the gifts that she has received, she continues to dedicate a part of her life to education by helping a student attend St. Phillips College. Through hard work and dedication she strives to help others reach their dreams of a college education.

I join the members of the Bowden Chapter of Business and Professional Women in recognizing Ms. Moody as Woman of the Year.

ERIC KARLAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO DANISH HOLOCAUST RESCUERS FOR HIS BAR MITZVAH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of our colleagues an outstanding young man—14 year old Eric Karlan, who in his short life has already made important decisions that can serve as a model for others to follow. His outstanding academic record, his musical gifts, his athletic prowess, his social activism, and the leadership roles he fulfills are by themselves exceptional achievements for a 14 year old.

But what impresses me most about Eric, Mr. Speaker, is his willingness to acknowledge and honor what is best in the history of humanity and to demonstrate his appreciation for what is a truly heroic legacy. I am referring to Eric's decision to celebrate his coming to manhood through the Bar Mitzvah ritual by going to Denmark to visit important historic sites as an expression of his gratitude to the Danish people for rescuing almost the entire Jewish community of Denmark from extermination by the Nazis during World War Two.

Mr. Speaker, Bar Mitzvah celebrations have too often become showpieces of affluence,

more extravagant than meaningful. Eric's decision to honor this occasion with simple dignity, remembering the suffering and hardships of his own people and paying respect to those Danes who came to their rescue in a time of greatest need, was indeed a wise and noble choice, and it demonstrates extraordinary character and maturity in one so young.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Eric for the intelligent choices he has already made in his life, for his dedication to genuine values, for his wisdom in following in the footsteps of those who light a candle in the darkness of the world, and for his understanding and appreciation of true heroism. Mr. Speaker, I ask that excerpts of Eric's moving description of his journey of discovery in the footsteps of Danish heroes be placed in the RECORD.

MY BAR MITZVAH IN DENMARK

(By Eric Karlan)

My family has always had a reputation for doing unconventional things. When I received my Bar Mitzvah date at the age of 11, I was told that I wouldn't be getting a big party or presents like everyone else. My parents said I would be able to pick a meaningful place to visit, and select a charity for any Bar Mitzvah money I might receive. I wanted to choose a place that would give me a unique Bar Mitzvah experience.

I read a book called *Number the Stars*, by Lois Lowry. I learned that the Danish people saved all but 116 of the approximately 8,000 Jews in Denmark by helping them escape to neutral Sweden during the Holocaust. This book was instantly a favorite of mine. It was then that I decided for my Bar Mitzvah I was going to research this story, and Denmark would be the destination for my trip.

My parents gave me the opportunity to work with a modern orthodox Rabbi, David Kalb. Instead of studying the Torah portion that was near my birthday date, Rabbi Kalb helped me select a portion that was related to my trip. For our explanatory style service, I chose Beshallah, the story of the Parting of the Red Sea. We picked this story because it was uplifting, involved hope, and most importantly dealt with the liberation and freedom of the Jewish people. I connected this to the story of the Danish Resistance and how they brought the Jews from the clutches of the Nazis into freedom. Both of those stories shared positive and miraculous attributes. And both stories shared the water as the avenue to freedom. In the Midrash, *Shemot Rabah*, there is a story about how the Red Sea did not part until Nachshon Ben Aminadav, walked neck deep into the water. This makes a major statement that no one can expect miracles to happen unless someone takes the first step. The Danish people took the first step and a miracle occurred; all the Danish Jews were transported to Sweden secretly within a matter of days. In fact, there is a Disney movie called "Miracle at Midnight" that tells the story.

Together, the Rabbi and I retraced the Rescue Route and learned more and more about the Exodus of the Danish Jews going to Sweden and what risks were taken. We also learned how leadership can have such a huge impact on the people. King Christian X and the Danish Bishop played an important role, setting a superb example for the Danes and leading them to do the right thing when they were surrounded by evil.

We arrived early on a Wednesday morning in Denmark and immediately started to learn new things about the Danish experience during the Holocaust. As we were telling the driver on our way to the hotel about what we were doing in Denmark, he told us

another very powerful story about Denmark's leadership. One day, a Nazi officer came to King Christian X and told him that if any soldier were to put up the Danish flag the next morning, he would be shot on the spot. The King replied that he would be that soldier, and from that day on, the flag of Denmark flew every day for the rest of the war.

We visited the Bispebjerg Hospital, where over 2,000 Jews passed en route to Sweden. The head nurse told us that to hold the Jews in the hospital secretly was tough. To start, they had to register the Jews under Christian names. Next, they would make them look pale by putting powder on their faces and make them sick by drugging them. She told us that doctors found out that there was an informer, so they locked him up in the psychiatric ward. After the meeting we toured the hospital and the meaningful places there.

As we reached one of the doors, the nurse told us a fascinating, scary story. Every door with a lock had 16 square panes of glass on it. On each of the doors, one of the panes of glass was different because when the Nazis broke into the hospital, they punched through the glass so they could stick their hand through and unlock the door.

Finally, we reached an office where the chief surgeon used to work. The office was on the third floor of the building where we were told that when one of the doctors tried to escape out the window, he was shot and fell to his death. After thanking the nurse, we asked where we could find out even more information and we were directed straight to the hospital chapel.

At the chapel, we met with one of the people who worked there. He told us how Jews escaped out of the hospital and on to the next part of the Rescue Route. He said they would have fake funeral processions and Jews were transported out of the chapel right under the Nazis' noses. Before leaving the hospital's premises, we learned about some underground tunnels that the doctors now use for work. During the war though they made great hiding places.

After this, we went to the Grundtvig Church of the Lutheran Church of Denmark. When the Jews were in need, Grundtvig Church played a key role in helping them. When the Nazis declared martial law, the bishop of the church explained the situation, almost all Christians agreed to help the Jews. They helped hide the Jews in their homes and the church, and during the two-year period in which the Jews were in Sweden, Grundtvig Church hid Torah scrolls and other Jewish family valuables. After leaving the Grundtvig Church, we made our way to the beautiful Church of Denmark. This church also played a key role in helping the Jewish people. During the occupation, this church's bishop played Hatikvah, now known as Israel's national anthem, on the church bells. Like Grundtvig, the Church of Denmark hid Jews, Torah scrolls and other Jewish valuables.

We had to start early Thursday morning for the long 30-mile car ride up the coast to visit all the fishing ports where the Jews escaped. The first fishing port we came to was Niva, a port where a large number of Jews were sent. To get to Niva, the Jews had to take trains where they had to sit in the same cars as Nazis without them knowing. When they reached the port, they were held in a large tile factory where they were hidden or acted as workers. At night, there was, and still is, a tile path that leads from the factory to the port itself that the Jews followed to get to the boats safely.

Next up the coast was Sletten, where Sweden is never farther than two to four miles away. After that was Snekkersten, a port

that had the second most Jews depart from. Here we had a quick memorial service in honor of H.C. Thomsen, an owner of an inn who hid Jews. He was caught and executed at a concentration camp, so in his memory and in memory of those like him, we held the memorial service in front of a rock, which was marked with a plaque honoring him and surrounded by flowers.

We continued up the coast to pass or stop at more small fishing ports like Elsinore and Hornbaeck. As we drove up the coastline, Sweden was never out of sight. You can only imagine how frustrating that was for the Danish Jews to have freedom less than five miles away, yet you could die from hypothermia just by trying to swim across the water. Finally, at the tip of the coast, we reached Gilleleje, the site where the most Jews left and where the most Jews were caught. We visited a small church where more than half the captured Jews in all of Denmark were caught. The church hid 80 Jews in the attic, when an informer tipped off the Nazis and 79 were caught and sent to the concentration camp at Theresienstadt.

From Gilleleje we returned to Copenhagen where a recently completed ten-mile bridge goes across the water to Sweden. We decided that touching Swedish soil would be a symbolic end to the morning since that is where the Jews escaped to from the fishing ports. We crossed the bridge by car, got our passports stamped, and returned to the hotel.

We awoke to a gorgeous Friday morning, the day of my Bar Mitzvah. I was very excited and eager to start the service. The decision for where my Bar Mitzvah would be held was made a few days before. It would be in Mindelunden, a memorial park right outside the city where 106 Resistance members were killed. It was hard to believe that brutal executions had ever happened at such a beautiful place. As we walked in, there was a long wall of plaques with all the people's names that had been killed, with a little information about them.

Farther on, we found the graveyard. It was an unbelievable site. There was a magnificent statue near the back with a Resistor holding up one of his fallen comrades. In front of the statue were 106 graves, each with a marble plaque on top identifying the person and their life span. One of the graves is now covered in heather because later that man was identified as a traitor. We had a memorial service for all the fallen resistors at the site.

Past the graveyard we found the execution pit. In the pit were three stakes and a plaque. This was a very scary sight and only my mom and my brother went past the plaque to touch the stakes. We still hadn't done the Bar Mitzvah service and the decision of where it should be held was still undecided.

While walking back from the execution pit, we passed an open field with a tree near the side. Since the tree was approximately halfway between the pit and the graveyard, the choice was made that the Bar Mitzvah would be under the tree. The service lasted about fifteen minutes and included my Torah portion, some prayers, texts that Rabbi Kalb (who had a Notre Dame hat on) personally selected, and the Israeli national anthem "Hatikvah." It was a wonderful service and ended with the Rabbi picking me up on his shoulders and dancing around.

Our congressman, Jim Maloney, had arranged a meeting for us with the United States Ambassador to Denmark to discuss my Bar Mitzvah experience. After passing through the gates of the embassy and getting our passports checked, we were finally greeted and led up to the Ambassador's office. The Ambassador's name is Richard Swett. We found out later that his in-laws were survivors of the Holocaust.

Another man from New York named Gabriel Erem, owner of the magazine *Lifestyles*, was already there and wanted to stay to hear about my experience. Gabriel had heard about my story and seemed very interested. We sat down in the office and I started to explain everything that had led up to the trip and how it had been going so far. We retraced the Rescue Route on the maps the Ambassador had up in his office and told almost all the stories we learned. Questions were exchanged from both sides about the Bar Mitzvah. A while later it was time to go, but not before we got one more surprise. The Ambassador had extra tickets to the Danish premiere of "The Last Days," a documentary film made by Steven Spielberg about five survivors of the Holocaust.

The Grand Theater was busy with people coming to see the premiere. We started to talk to the people in front of us and soon found out that when they were three and four, they were two of the Jews who were taken by boat to Sweden. A few minutes later, the Ambassador entered and went up to the podium to make his opening speech. He mentioned lots of important people, the survivors that were present that night, his co-workers, his wife and in-laws, etc. And then near the end of the speech, he spoke about my story and me. As soon as he finished my story, he introduced me and had me stand up in front of all the people. That made my night! Soon after the moment of glory, the documentary began.

The documentary was very impressive and moving. After it ended, the survivors all went up to the podium and made a little speech. As we stood up to leave, Renee Firestone, one of the four survivors present that night came up to wish me "Mazel Tav." After meeting her, a man came up to introduce himself to me. He was not one of the survivors, but a student in Copenhagen at the time of the war who rowed Jews to Sweden in October of 1943. His name was Munch Nielsen, and I didn't realize I already knew about him till my Rabbi told me so. In some of our notes, we had quotes from him. This was very cool. Following that, we met up with Gabriel Erem, who introduced us to Congressman Tom Lantos, the Ambassador's father-in-law, and another one of the survivors in the movie. After a quick chat, we all went to the reception.

The first thing I wanted to do was go over and thank the Ambassador for making my Bar Mitzvah day the best. I went over to him and his whole expression changed. A nice smile came over his face and he told me to follow him because there were some people he wanted me to meet. First he introduced me to the Israeli Ambassador in Copenhagen. The next person I met was his mother-in-law Mrs. Annette Lantos. She was also a survivor of the Holocaust, but she was not in the documentary. She was very sweet and made a big fuss over what I was doing.

Then the Ambassador introduced me to Irene Weisberg-Zisblatt. As soon as she saw me, she smiled and said, "It is such an honor to meet you." I responded the same way and we both laughed. Out of everyone, she was the coolest and the most interested in my story. Around her neck were diamonds in the shape of a teardrop. In the movie, she said that those diamonds were from her mother and anytime the Nazis went to check if any of the prisoners had anything, she would swallow them, and then when she went to the bathroom, she would fish them back out, clean them off in the mud and swallow them again. And now, they were around her neck in real life, which was very hard to believe. Irene, the Rabbi and his wife, my family and myself all talked for the longest time.

People started to leave and my exciting day started to come to a close. We wrapped

up our conversation with Irene, said good night to the Rabbi and his wife, and headed back to the hotel after a perfect ending to a great Bar Mitzvah day. Imagine celebrating your Bar Mitzvah one morning in a World War II Resistance memorial park and ending the day with actual survivors that eluded Nazi death.

I can't speak for other countries, but I know in America the schools only teach the negative and scary things about the Holocaust. Even though that was really what most of the Holocaust was, the Denmark story should be taught everywhere as well. It is positive and uplifting, gives hope and sets the example for remarkable leadership, brotherhood, and respect for humanity. The Danes should be admired for their gallantry and I am glad I did what I did for my Bar Mitzvah.

HONORING AHMAD ALAADEEN

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Missouri Humanities Council's selection of the recipients for the 2000 Governor's Humanities Awards. Mr. Ahmad Alaadeen, a prominent recording artist in my district, is the recipient of the Community Heritage Award for his dedication to his Kansas City Jazz heritage.

Since 1917, Kansas City musicians have fostered and developed the well known sounds of blues, bebop and swing. Ahmad Alaadeen was born in 1934 and raised in the historic 18th and Vine Music District. In his youth he cultivated a love for the music that resinated from the Mutual Musicians Foundation. The distinctive sounds of Jazz Masters like Charlie Parker, Count Basie and Jay McShann became part of the persona of Alaadeen's saxophone playing.

The music industry has recognized Mr. Alaadeen for his award winning compositions and fellow musicians have christened him "Professor." Many refer to him as the reigning master of Kansas City music. In the 1970's he became aware that Kansas City Jazz was becoming stagnant. In an effort to revitalize and perpetuate the sound of Kansas City jazz he developed a mentor program. The program provides apprentice musicians the opportunity to perform with his band as paid professionals while developing their own unique style. He encourages local and visiting jazz masters to do the same. One of his goals is to develop an individual into a musician as opposed to a programmed performer. Young musicians who are exposed to his talents gain an intense understanding of jazz. His work is paying dividends in the development of talented musicians like Logan Richardson, Tim Whitmer, Gerald Dunn and Charles Perkins.

Mr. Alaadeen developed an historical documentary of video and audio recordings to share the story of the originators and continuing evolution of Kansas City Jazz. The first audio release, "Tradn' 4's," featured the originators of the Kansas City style with music from many of the pioneers of jazz including Henry Hoard, Wallace Jones, Pearl Thuston. "On the Cusp," was the first video produced by Alaadeen Enterprises Inc. and focused on his generation, known as the transition generation. The video showcases the generation

who mastered the jazz sound by learning the trade orally. The video features the music and style of Luqman Hamza, the late Frank Smith, Sonny Kenner, Russ Long and Ahmad Alaadeen.

Mr. Alaadeen is the present Chairman of the Mutual Musicians Foundation. The Foundation is known for its commitment to the promotion and development of Kansas City Jazz. Music enthusiasts love the late night jam sessions that swing with today's jazz masters. Musicians like Jay McShann, Claude "Fiddler" Williams and Pat Metheny are favorite sons in Kansas City. Mr. Alaadeen's concerts provide an educational musical experience that fosters appreciation and enlightens the listener.

Inscribed on the wall of the Kansas City High School for the Arts is a quotation from Mr. Alaadeen. It reads, "Jazz does not belong to one race or culture, but is a gift America has given the world."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the man who has revitalized our music community and introduced a new generation to the sweet sounds of Kansas City Jazz. The great state of Missouri understands the importance of his humanitarian efforts and distinguishes his effort by presenting him with the Governor's 2000 Community Heritage Award.

SUPPORTING INTERNET SAFETY AWARENESS

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 575. This resolution urges Americans to recognize and support educational programs that make surfing the Internet safe and fun for children. It supports initiatives to educate parents, children, educators and community leaders about the enormous possibilities and potential dangers of the Internet, applauds the work of law enforcement officers to make the Internet safe for children, and urges all Americans to become informed about the Internet and support efforts that will provide Internet safety for children and for future generations.

The Internet is a wonderful tool for educating our children and has been instrumental in driving the growth of our economy. But unfortunately tools can be misused. Today an estimated 10 million American children have unfettered access to the Internet—a 444 percent increase from 1995. What is alarming is that as the new millennium has begun more and more children will have access to the Internet and in turn, easy access to alcohol.

Just before Memorial Day, I participated in a news report concerning ease with which our youngest constituents can obtain alcohol through the Internet. On the videotape I witnessed two fifteen-year-old children using their home computers to access the world-wide web and order alcohol on the net. And in a few short days this alcohol was delivered to their front door by a national mail carrier who did not ask for identification when the two fifteen-year-old children signed for the boxes containing wine and a bottle of Absolut. Last year, I testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on my concern for this issue be-

cause similar stories had surfaced in the news December 1997.

Although there is a no single solution to the national epidemic of underage drinking, the bill that I introduced in the first session of the 106th Congress, H.R. 2161 would close some of the gaping loopholes I call "cyberbooze for minors" that now make it possible for teens and young adults to easily obtain alcohol over the Internet. H.R. 2161, the Prohibition Against Alcohol Traffic to Minors will curb underage drinking by prohibiting "direct shipment" of alcohol to persons under a State's legal drinking age.

I want to urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 575 because it recognizes the powerful potential and inherent danger that the Internet offers our children. I hope that my colleagues will also join me in putting an end to easy alcohol access on the Internet by supporting H.R. 2161.

SAFER GUNS FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES ACT

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Safer Guns for Safer Communities Act along with my colleague CAROLYN MCCARTHY.

This bill takes a commonsense approach to gun safety by encouraging gun manufacturers to engage in better and safer business practices. The Safer Guns for Safer Communities Act is modeled after the historic Smith & Wesson Agreement.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and several local government entities entered into an agreement with Smith & Wesson to manufacture and distribute safer guns. The agreement was revolutionary in nature, but commonsense in approach. It includes many items that Congress has debated at one point or another: child safety locks, high capacity ammunition clips, and "smart" gun technology. The Agreement also requires that firearms include additional safety features such as chamber load indicators and a hidden serial number which will help convict criminals using them. Since the Smith & Wesson Agreement was announced in March, nearly 600 police departments and community leaders have pledged to only buy firearms that meet minimal safety standards.

We must remember that gun safety reform is not taking guns away from law abiding citizens who are legitimate gun owners. Instead, it is about the little girl in Michigan who was shot by her 6-year-old classmate. It is about the 13 children killed by their peers at Columbine High School over a year ago. And it is about Antioch's Larry Kiepert who was shot by his neighbor.

To create an incentive for more manufacturers to adopt these safety measures, The Safer Guns for Safer Communities Act provides grants to law enforcement agencies who purchase their weapons from manufacturers who agree to adhere to the better business practices similar to the ones in the Agreement. In addition, law enforcement officers who must purchase their own weapons would be able to

come together through a qualified association of officers to apply for these grants. This provision benefits officers who are required to purchase their own weapons. The program would last 3 years and provides \$50 million each year to 50 grantees. A study would then assess the impact of purchasing weapons from responsible manufacturers on gun-related crime and accidents.

This Congress has refused to take action on any meaningful gun safety proposal. Perhaps the reason for their inaction can be best explained by the overpowering influence of the gun lobby. Our job in Congress is to promote responsibility, ensure safety, and educate the American people when it comes to owning, selling, and manufacturing firearms. It is time for children and families to once again feel safe in our schools, our homes, and our neighborhoods. It is time for our workforce to once again feel safe at work or during their commute home.

JOHN WILLIAM AND ASHLEY DANIELLI CARPENTER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit into the RECORD the words of the father of John William and Ashley Danielle Carpenter, two innocent children murdered in their home in Merced, California. These words were composed and read at the funeral of the children.

Mr. Speaker, I submit this statement to share with my colleagues the grief of a father and his plea for a change in the hearts of a humanity that can allow such an atrocity. While I can not know the impact on the family and friends of the Carpenters, I surely can sympathize with their pain and share their grief, with the hope and prayer of preventing just one act of violence, one time somewhere in this world.

Today we stand here grieving the loss of John William and Ashley Danielle Carpenter and somewhere a mother grieves the loss of her son, who has done these hideous crimes. But what saddens me is that the law says we know what took place so it's time to close the book. But I challenge you, as the father of the deceased children that this case is far from over. Because while we sit here mourning the loss of our loved ones, the real killer is still loose. I believe the real killer is the dealer who supplied the drugs to the murderer of my children. I trust and believe that. I sure hope that I can't take this a step further and say it's "big business" that did this to my children, with mine and your tax dollars. When I say big business, I mean the White House, excuse my lack of a better word, to the Outhouse. We need to wake and wonder, why are they trying to take our only protection, our handgun, instead of going after the dealers that supply these drugs. It makes me wonder about their motives. There was a gun in my home, but because of the law and what could happen to me, I had it put away in supposedly a safe place. I guess I did, because my 14-year-old daughter and 13-year-old daughter couldn't get to it and neither did the murderer. The only thing I forgot to put a lock on was my pitchfork. How long are we, the people going to believe the lies of the politicians and get back to the

root of the problems? We need to change the hearts of men, to start loving their neighbors and the neighbor's children as themselves. What's sad is, it doesn't cost one red cent. In fact it will save us money. My plea to you people today, is put all politics and religions aside and start living life like my little daughter Ashley did, by laying down her life for her sisters. It might cost you your life, but that should be easy to do, you already have an example in my daughter. Do whatever it takes to protect your family and friends. I know the only way she knew to do that was by example, starting with her love for Jesus, she learned at Sunday school. The next example was her mom and dad, who led her and were there for her, instead of chasing their desires. Because with me and my wife, we were raised and taught the same way, I wouldn't trade it for anything, because if I did, I wouldn't be here feeling like the proud father that I am, of all my children. I know without a shadow of doubt where my children are today, and only God knows where the murderer is. Please remember if you don't do as Ashley lived and did in her actions you might never see them again, and it hurts me to know that for you, their little lives might be in vain. I just want to say that for me, John William and Ashley Danielle Carpenter's lives weren't in vain. I will always keep you close to my heart John and Ashley in this life, but I guarantee you, I'll see you in heaven. Love you always and forever. Your Daddy & Buddy.

CELEBRATING HENRY BERMAN'S
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, ten years ago, I had the privilege of standing on this floor to wish my dear friend, Henry Berman, a happy birthday. It is with great pleasure that I rise today, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, to pay tribute again to this wonderful San Franciscan.

Henry Berman continues to be a leader in San Francisco. He serves with distinction on the San Francisco Airport Commission and is the former chair of the San Francisco Fire Commission. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Anti-Defamation League and on the Board of Directors of the Northern California American Israel Political Affairs Committee. Henry continues his work with Glide Methodist Church on the annual fundraising event he helped to create, and he sits on the Board of Directors of the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning.

Henry Berman, however, is more than the sum of his affiliations. He is an extraordinary man whose energy and enthusiasm for life are contagious. His commitment to the poor, the marginalized, and those in great need is an inspiration to us all, and I am honored to count him among my friends.

I join his wife, Sally, his sons, Ronald and Robert, and all of his family and friends in wishing Henry a happy 90th birthday. Congratulations, Henry.

HONORING THE LATE OSCAR
MAUZY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to former Texas State Senator and Supreme Court Justice Oscar Mauzy. He passed away on Tuesday, October 10, at the age of 73.

Justice Mauzy was my immediate predecessor in the Texas Senate from Senate District 23. He represented this District from 1967 until his election to the State Supreme Court in 1986. During his service in the legislature, Senator Mauzy served as the chairman of the Senate Education Committee, where he led efforts to improve education and to secure greater funding for education in poorer school districts. A labor lawyer by training, Senator Mauzy was also active in the areas of judicial reform, consumer protection, and workers' compensation. Later in his legislative career, Senator Mauzy served as Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, where he authored legislation to make jury selection uniform throughout the state and finally allow women to serve as jurors.

Justice Mauzy's dedication to education for our children continued during his six-year term in the Texas Supreme Court. He was the driving force behind a 9-0 decision that declared the state's school funding system inequitable. That decision led to enactment of a law to require wealthier school districts to share funds with lower-income districts.

I am deeply saddened that Texas has lost a public servant who dedicated more than a quarter century in service to his fellow Texans. I ask the House to join me in remembrance of Justice Mauzy, a true champion for working men and women and schoolchildren in my state.

SANTIAGO JIMENEZ RECEIVES
PRESTIGIOUS MUSICIAN AWARD

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Santiago Jimenez of San Antonio, Texas, who is being recognized for his accomplishments as a singer and accordion player by the National Endowment for the Arts. The National Heritage Fellowship is an award given to a select group of people, reflecting the diverse heritage and cultural tradition that have become a part of our society.

Local artists are nominated by a member of the community, in recognition of the artist's excellence in a particular area. Each year only a select group of these artists are honored. The National Endowment for the Arts has awarded only slightly more than 222 National Heritage Awards.

Mr. Jimenez plays a style of music known as conjunto, which has both German and Mexican roots. His music interest began when his father would take him to hear German polka bands in New Braunfels, Texas. At the age of 15, he began performing professionally

at weddings, clubs and traditional community settings. Following his father's example he developed creatively and incorporated a wider audience. In 1958, at the age of 17, with his brother he recorded *El Principe y el Rey del Acordeon*. Since then, he has made 60 recordings of more than 700 pieces of music on several different labels.

He started Chief Records, his own label, in order to give younger musicians the opportunity to have their music heard. He works to help others in an industry that he has experienced barriers to entry. Mr. Jimenez has toured throughout the US, Europe and South America to bring the world of conjunto music to millions.

I join the City of San Antonio and the National Endowment for the Arts in recognizing Santiago Jimenez on his accomplishment as a recipient of the National Heritage Fellowship award.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET TOWSON

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional individual and friend to the State of Missouri. This year, after 56 years of service to the citizens of Missouri, Margaret Towson will celebrate her retirement from her historic post at the Missouri State Senate in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Margaret Towson started in the Secretary of the Senate Office in 1949. During her tenure she witnessed twenty-six General Assemblies for the equivalent of almost fifty-two years. She then served as the distinguished Assistant Secretary of the Senate, whose duties, in addition to functioning as secretary and receptionist, included tallying and filing roll calls, maintaining good public relations with legislators and lobbyists, remaining in the office each day until adjournment, and addressing any challenge or task which required her assistance.

As a lifelong member of the Cole County Democrats and the Cole County Democratic Women's Club, Margaret Towson is widely recognized as an outstanding civic minded individual who has consistently committed her time and energy to promote civic involvement. One of Margaret's greatest moments came when her efforts were recognized by President Harry S Truman, a man she greatly admired and affectionately referred to as "Cousin Harry."

Margaret Towson's kind, dedicated spirit is celebrated, admired, and respected in Jefferson City and throughout the State of Missouri. She will be missed not only for her professional excellence, but also for her personally endearing qualities and delectable apple pies that were savored by the many people she met and worked with. Margaret's retirement marks the end of a historic era in the Missouri State Senate. She is looking forward to spending more quality time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandson. Margaret Towson has left a lasting impression upon her peers and friends that will not be forgotten.

It is with deep gratitude and honor that I recognize Margaret Towson for over a half a century of friendship and service to the State

of Missouri. Her devotion is an example to us all.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the Missouri Ninetieth General Assembly in congratulating Margaret Towson on her outstanding service to the people of Missouri.

LUPUS RESEARCH AND CARE
AMENDMENTS OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 10, 2000

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong and heartfelt support for the Lupus Research and Care Amendments Act, which was introduced by our hardworking and dedicated colleague, Congresswoman CARRIE MEEK. She has been a tireless advocate for this issue for years. As the Co-Vice Chair of the Women's Caucus, I am a proud co-sponsor of this legislation, as are 45 Women Caucus members. This legislation is the perfect illustration of a bipartisan effort to address a painful, debilitating disease that affects women nine times more often than men, and African American women three times more often than white women.

It is estimated that between 1.4 million and 2 million Americans have been diagnosed with this disease and that many more have undiagnosed cases. This serious, complex, inflammatory autoimmune disease can simultaneously affect various parts of the body, including the skin, joints, kidneys and brain. It can be difficult to diagnose this disease because its symptoms are similar to those of many other diseases and many people suffering the signs of its onset have never heard of lupus, nor understand how to respond to these symptoms.

The Lupus Research and Care Amendments Act authorizes funding to expand and intensify research on lupus at the National Institutes of Health, including basic research on the causes of lupus; research to determine why the disease is more prevalent in women and particularly African-American women; research on improving diagnostic techniques; and research to develop and evaluate new treatments. This bill also requires the Health and Human Services department to establish a grant program to deliver services to those afflicted with lupus and their families. The program would provide grants to state and local governments, nonprofit hospitals, community based organizations and community or migrant health centers to provide services for diagnosing and managing lupus.

I urge my colleagues to follow the women of the House, and pass this legislation to help countless women and families. This legislation will spur unprecedented yet direly needed research on how this disease affects women and on what the best treatments are to cure this disease. Lupus can be fatal if not detected and treated early, but with this research and proper delivery of services, we can not only enhance people's lives, but save them as well.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER
AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT
ON H.R. 4461, AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD
AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPRO-
PRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address a provision in the FY01 Agriculture Appropriations Conference Report that is not only disturbing, but highly objectionable on legal grounds. This provision was subject to absolutely no deliberative thought. In fact, the Chairmen of the House and Senate Judiciary Committee raised serious constitutional and legal concerns about it. The Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers decried it. I am referring to section 745 of the bill. It states, "No manufacturer of a covered product may enter into a contract or agreement that includes a provision to prevent the sale or distribution of covered products imported pursuant to subsection (a)."

Besides the fact that this provision baldly impedes the right of businesses to conduct affairs in the manner they so choose, what is perhaps most troubling about this provision, which restricts freedom of contract and clearly infringes on intellectual property and other constitutional rights, is that it was added to the Conference Report in the dark of night. This provision was not contained in either of the underlying House or Senate Agriculture Appropriations bills—or any other bill for that matter. Moreover, the provision was never the subject of any committee hearings or other public deliberation by the Congress.

While it will slip past Members today because it is buried deep in an important appropriations bill that, among other things, provides billions of dollars in drought relief to American farmers, I take small comfort in knowing that this provision will not slip past the Courts and will not survive judicial review.

Until that time, let us at least realize that this ill-advised provision requires narrow interpretation, not only because of the stealth with which it was included, but because an inappropriately broad reading would raise very serious questions with respect to conflicts with US patent and trade laws. To avoid—or at least minimize—such conflicts, the only interpretation of this provision (which replaced a broader proposed provision that the Conference Committee rejected) is that it is strictly limited to contacts or agreement involving drug reimports, and also containing explicit contractual provisions to this purpose and effect.

Make no mistake—this provision is horrid. That's what you get when you have a flawed process—you get flawed policy. It profoundly affects both intellectual property rights and constitutional rights. It has no place in this bill and I am deeply disappointed the Conference Committee allowed such a provision to be included in this bill.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference report for the FY01 National Defense Authorization Act named for my distinguished colleague and Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, FLOYD D. SPENCE. Chairman SPENCE has been a great advocate of our nation's military and has worked tirelessly to rebuild a military weakened by years of cuts in the defense budget. Under his leadership we have increased the Department of Defense's budget \$60 billion over the past five years of Clinton-Gore administration cuts.

This bill makes significant progress in keeping faith with the greatest generation by restoring the promise of lifetime health care to America's military retirees and their families. Congressman BUYER's efforts to address a financial challenge resulted in taking retiree health care out of the defense budget and setting up a long-term funding plan to ensure that our nation's military retirees will have access to the medical care that they have deservedly earned.

The defense authorization act also provides active duty service members a new opportunity to convert their Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) benefits to the Montgomery GI Bill if they declined to do so before or withdraw all funds from their VEAP accounts. The bill also builds upon the concurrent receipt initiative provided in last year's defense bill. Beginning in fiscal year 2002, those service-members who are medically retired and rated at least 70% disabled by VA will be eligible for additional special monthly compensation of up to \$300.

Mr. Speaker, I regret that my colleague from Virginia, Readiness Subcommittee Chairman Herb Bateman passed away before seeing this bill signed into law. Throughout the measure are marks of his efforts to ensure that our defenders of freedom are battle ready and have the tools and resources they need. I also wish to thank the retiring Members of the panel who have worked tirelessly to rebuild our nation's military. Your support for our men and women in uniform has not gone unnoticed.

While we have successfully increased funding in critical modernization programs, we have a long way to go. Following the "lost decade" of defense in the 1990s, America's military must be reshaped to meet the challenges of the post-Cold War world. Starting immediately, the United States must commit the resources necessary to improve current military capabilities and prepare our forces to face the threats of the coming decades. Anything less jeopardizes the military's readiness and America's place in the world.

HONORING NEW HOPE BAPTIST
CHURCHS**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Hope Baptist Church in Port Arthur, Texas, which will be receiving a State Historical Marker from the Texas Historical Commission on October 15, 2000. New Hope Baptist Church was the first African-American Baptist Church and was officially founded on August 12, 1906, but existed quite some time before that date. The church was first organized by the Rev. Stevenson, Sis. Copeland, Sis. Laura Hebert, and Sis. Sharlit Bill. New Hope was originally located on Titsingh Street (now known as Marian Anderson Avenue).

As the African-American population grew, a larger place of worship was needed and a one-room building was rented on West 10th Street. The Rev. A.D. Hendon was the first official pastor and served one year and 11 months. Professor A.J. Criner was the first Chairman of the Deacon Board, as well as the Principal of the African-American public school. The New Hope Baptist Church had 14 charter members, and some of the early members included: Rev. Stevenson, Sis. Copeland, Sis. Sharlit Bill, Sis. Laura Hebert, Nora Wade (King), Will King, M.G. Glass, A.J. Criner, Nellie Jones, Rev. A.D. Hendon, W.M. Richardson, Vallie Brown, J.W. Willis, W.P. Powell, A.W. Edwards, and Willie Braxton.

The one-room building was used as a stable during the week. On Saturdays, the members would start clearing out the stable and assembling makeshift benches with boxes and planks for members to sit on. There was no pulpit. The minister would stand in front of the congregation with his Bible in hand and preach. The building would often flood and leak when it rained. Rev. J.E. Nelson was the second pastor and served one year, through 1909. During his administration, the first church was built at the same spot where the old structure stood. Hurricanes reportedly blew down two church buildings and early records were lost in floods and storms.

New Hope developed a close relationship with the first Methodist Church of Port Arthur and Israel Chapel A.M.E. Church on Texas Avenue. Each alternated its services to allow the other to hold worship services in its sanctuary during a building program. Rev. J.W. Williams came in 1910 and rebuilt the church that was destroyed by a hurricane. However, this building was soon destroyed. Mr. Speaker, throughout the 20th Century New Hope Baptist Church should serve as an example to us all—always keep the faith and hope to rebuild.

TRIBUTE TO BETSY CROWDER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor Betsy Crowder, a well-known and loved constituent who distinguished herself in so many ways and whose life was cut short on September 29, 2000.

Born in Boston, Betsy Crowder's love and appreciation for the environment developed early on when her parents would take their four daughters on camping trips in Canada during the summer. She met her late husband Dwight in 1949, when they were both members of the Stanford University Alpine Club and they were married a year later. In 1960, the Crowders built a home in Portola Valley and became very active in local conservation issues.

Betsy Crowder served on numerous County and local advisory committees for land use and trails including the Portola Valley Conservation Committee, the San Mateo County Trails Advisory Committee, the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council, the San Mateo County Bikeways Advisory Committee, the Committee for Green Foothills and the Planning and Conservation League.

Betsy Crowder also served as a Planning Commissioner for Portola Valley from 1972 to 1977 and as an environmental planner for the City of Palo Alto from 1972 to 1980.

Since 1989, she was a member of the elected Board of Directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD), including two years as President of the Board in 1993 and 1998. During her tenure on the Board, MROSD's lands grew from 32,000 acres to 43,000 acres and she was a very active member on MROSD's Coastal Advisory Commission for the District's plan to annex the San Mateo County Coast.

Mr. Speaker, Betsy Crowder was an exceptionally kind and selfless woman dedicated to her family, her community and her country. Her tireless commitment and stewardship of the environment inspired everyone. She lives on through her two children, two grandchildren, three sisters, 15 nieces and nephews, and through all of us who were blessed to be part of her life.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a uniquely wonderful woman who lived a life of purpose and to extend our deepest sympathy to her daughters, Wendy and Anne, and the entire Crowder family.

POLISH OFFICERS MONUMENT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, on Nov. 19, 2000 the National Katyn Memorial Committee will dedicate a monument in Baltimore, Maryland to the memory of more than 15,000 Polish Army officers who were massacred by Soviet soldiers in the spring of 1940.

In September, I was honored to accept an award on behalf of Congress presented by Father Zdzislaw J. Peszkowski, a survivor of the massacre. The medal was presented on behalf of the Katyn families in recognition of U.S. congressional hearings conducted in 1951 and 1952 that focused world attention on this World War II massacre that occurred in the Katyn Forest.

While this massacre occurred more than 50 years ago, it is important that we remember what happened. In 1939, Nazi Germany invaded Poland from the west and the Soviet Union invaded from the east. In 1940, more

than 15,000 Polish Army officers were placed in detention, then taken in small groups, told they would be freed and then were gunned down in the Soviet Union's Katyn Forest. In 1943, the German Army discovered the mass graves, which the Russians tried to blame on the Germans. It was long suspected that the massacre was the work of the Soviets. Final proof came in 1989, after the fall of the Soviet Union, when President Gorbachev released documents that clearly proved the Soviets, with the full knowledge of Stalin, had carried out the massacre.

For more than a decade, the Polish-American community has raised funds to construct a fitting memorial to honor the victims of the massacre. The 44-foot statue has been permanently installed near Baltimore's Inner Harbor at President and Aliceanna Streets. I want to commend the Polish-American community and Alfred Wisniewski, Chairman of the National Katyn Memorial Committee, and the entire committee, for their tireless efforts in making this memorial to the victims of this atrocity a reality.

I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of these murdered Polish Army officers. The Katyn Memorial in Baltimore will be a lasting reminder to all of us that we must never tolerate evil and tyranny and that we must continue to speak out for justice and tolerance.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF
PUERTO RICO**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, both the House and Senate have approved an appropriation of \$2.5 million to the Office of the President as requested by the President for a grant to the Elections Commission of Puerto Rico to be used for voter education on and a choice among the options available for the island's future political status. This marks an historic step forward in two key respects in the process of self-determination for the almost four million American citizens of Puerto Rico.

First, it represents the first authorization from Congress for the United States citizens of Puerto Rico to choose the ultimate political status for their island. Presidents since Truman have been seeking such an authorization and each House has passed similar language in the past, but the same language has never passed both Houses and been enacted into law. Our approval of this appropriation should be read as Congress' determination to resolve the century-long question of the island's ultimate status and let Puerto Rican Americans choose a fully democratic governing arrangement if they wish to replace the current territorial status.

Second, by adopting this provision as part of the unanticipated needs account of the Office of the President, it is Congress' intention that its support for a future vote in Puerto Rico be coordinated with the Administration's efforts to provide realistic options to be included on the ballot in the island's next referendum. In recent months the President has brought Puerto Rico's major political parties together in an unprecedented effort to define the available

political status options. Our approval of the \$2.5 Million request evidences our expectation that the White House will provide realistic options upon which to base a future status referendum. It can only responsibly allocate the funds for the consideration of options that are realistic.

Puerto Rican Americans have contributed to this Nation for over 102 years, both in peace and in wartime, and deserve the opportunity to resolve the uncertainty regarding their political status based on clearly defined status options consistent with the Constitution and U.S. law and with the support of Congress. This legislation along with realistic status options to be provided by the Administration will help us honor their contributions by moving the process of self-determination forward towards the establishment of a permanent and final political status for Puerto Rico.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. THELMA F.
RIVERS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Thelma F. Rivers of Timmonsville, South Carolina, prior to the celebration of her 115th birthday.

Mrs. Rivers was born on November 3, 1885, in Darlington, South Carolina, to a mother and father who were born into slavery. This makes her one of the few people to have ever lived to experience three centuries of American history. Her sharp memory is treasured by all. When Mrs. Rivers reminisces about her youth, she remembers picking two bales of cotton every day and sewing quilts with tobacco thread.

Remarkably, Mrs. Rivers remains independent and capable despite her years. She is on no medication, and has no use for eyeglasses, hearing aids, or canes. Living alone until last year, she even chopped her own wood, being that she chose to remain living in a home still furnished with a wood burning stove. Many of her younger counterparts can't even boast of this type of health and autonomy.

Mrs. Rivers has been blessed with several children, nearly 100 grandchildren, numerous great grandchildren, and the list continues. She attributes her long life to her faith in God and allowing Him to "hold her hand while she runs this race."

Mrs. Rivers has won no gold medals or Nobel prizes, but today, having lived through 115 years is a tremendous and commendable achievement. It is a testament to faith, strength, love, and wisdom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to this miraculous South Carolinian upon the celebration of her birthday.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL OF SYMPHONY HALL IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to one

of America's most historic crown jewels, Symphony Hall, as it celebrates its centennial and its many contributions to Boston, the Nation and the world.

The Hall was the brainchild of "Major" Henry Lee Higginson, founder of the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO). In the early 1890s, Higginson made the decision to build Symphony Hall due to the fact that the Boston Music Hall was no longer meeting the needs of the BSO and its patrons.

Major Higginson chose Charles Follen McKim of the New York firm of McKim, Mead and White as the architect of the Hall. At that time, McKim was the most prominent architect in the United States. However, one of the most influential persons involved in the project was a Harvard physicist by the name of Wallace Clement Sabine. Mr. Sabine, the founder of the science of architectural acoustics, served as acoustical consultant during the construction of the Hall. As a result of Sabine's input, Symphony Hall became the first concert hall designed with the aid of modern acoustical science, and today is ranked among the three best acoustical concert halls in the world.

Ground breaking on the Hall took place on June 12, 1899 and it opened its doors on October 15, 1900. Ever since its opening, Symphony Hall has played a major role in new music activity. It has been the scene of more than 250 musical world premiers, including major works by Samuel Barber, Aaron Copeland, George Gershwin, and John Williams.

Though it is principal home of the Boston Symphony and the Boston Pops orchestras, other performing artists use it 60–70 times a year. It is also interesting to note that for many years Symphony Hall was the largest public building in Boston and served as the city's major civic gathering place. Among such civic events were: the First Annual Automobile Show of the Boston Automobile Dealers' Association (1901); a debate on American participation in the League of Nations, advocated by Harvard President A. Lawrence Lowell and opposed by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge (1919); and all the inaugurations of Boston's Mayor James Michael Curley.

The Hall has regular radio and television broadcasts of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops. The first radio broadcast took place on January 23, 1926, with the first national radio broadcast took place on October 4, 1930 in honor of the BSO's 50th anniversary. Television broadcasts from Symphony Hall began in 1963 and in 1969 the program Evening at Pops was launched in co-operation with WGBH. This program has gone on to become the second longest-running series on public television, after Sesame Street.

Today, Symphony Hall continues to have a profound impact on the world of music and maintains its distinction as one of the world's finest concert halls. The Department of the Interior recently paid fitting tribute to Symphony Hall's national and historic significance by designating it a National Historic Landmark. I have no doubt that Symphony Hall will continue to be a strong influence in the world of music for the next century and I want to extend my heart-felt congratulations to all those persons that have been entrusted with maintaining the legacy of Symphony Hall. So I close with wishing Symphony Hall a happy birthday and the good fortune of celebrating at least another one hundred.

RECENT VIOLENCE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, after learning this morning about the latest violence in Israel. News reports indicate that two Israeli reserve soldiers were killed in the West Bank town of Ramallah. The Israeli soldiers were detained by the Palestinian police after they inadvertently made a wrong turn down a street, and were taken to a police station. Apparently a mob of Palestinians broke into the police station, slaughtered the Israeli soldiers, and paraded their bodies through the streets.

I call on Mr. Arafat to live up to his obligations under the Oslo Accords, and to maintain public order and calm in the West Bank through a vigorous use of the Palestinian police force. Let us remember that the Palestinians now fully control over 40% of the West Bank and Gaza, with over 95% of the Palestinian population under the civil administration of the Palestinian Authority. As the Palestinians gain greater authority and control over their domestic affairs, they also must shoulder the additional security responsibilities that come hand-in-hand with territorial control. The Palestinians must ensure the safety of both Israelis and Palestinians within their areas of control.

Mr. Arafat has personally assumed responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel in order to assure the maintenance of peace, law, and order in the West Bank. Just a few days ago Mr. Arafat allowed a Palestinian mob to destroy Joseph's Tomb, a Jewish holy site in the West Bank, just hours after Israeli troops withdrew and allowed the Palestinian police to take control.

Mr. Speaker, each of us prays for peace in the Middle East. The only way to achieve peace is for the Palestinian leaders to not only condemn but to take steps to stop terrorism and violence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON SECURITY IN AN OPEN SOCIETY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the United States Commission on Security in an Open Society Act, expressing an idea I have been working on for two years. Before our eyes, parts of our open society are gradually being closed down because of fear of terrorism. This act would begin a systematic response that takes full account of the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threat terrorism poses.

The bill I introduce today is being simultaneously introduced by the gentleman from New York, Senator DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, who is retiring this year. His unique career, as the Senate's intellectual leader, and as architect of the revival of Pennsylvania Avenue and

a good deal of the rest of the renaissance of the Nation's Capital makes him the perfect partner for this bill. Because the bill embodies much of the breadth of concerns of the man and his career, I believe that the passage of the United States Commission on Security in an Open Society Act during this Congress would be another fitting tribute to Senator MOYNIHAN's service.

Recent history has been marked by the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country. As a result, American society faces new and unprecedented challenges. We must provide higher levels of security for our people and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society. As yet, our country has no systematic process or strategy for meeting these challenges.

When we have been faced with unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply and to move to resolve them. Examples include the Warren Commission following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the Kerner Commission following riotous uprisings that swept American cities in the 1960's and 1970's.

The problems associated with worldwide terrorism are of similar importance and dimension. The Act requires that a commission be presidentially appointed because to be useful in meeting the multiple problems raised, a careful balance of members representative of a cross section of disciplines will be necessary. To date, questions of security most often have been left to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but they cannot alone resolve all the issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the balance required by our traditions, constitution and laws, a cross cutting group representing our best and wisest minds needs to be working at the same table.

With only existing tools and thinking, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th century approaches, such as crude blockades and other denials of access. The threat of terrorism to our democratic society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and then come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society with free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level presidential commission of wise experts from an array of disciplines who can help chart the new course that will be required to protect both our people and our precious democratic institutions.

2000 ORGAN COORDINATOR IMPROVEMENT ACT AND ORGAN DONOR ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce two bills to address organ scarcity, The Organ Coordinator Improvement Act and The Organ Donor Enhancement Act. These bills complement each other in their purpose to increase the number of recoverable organs

and make the best use of available organs for transplant.

Every 14 minutes, a new person is added to the list of patients in need of an organ transplant. This list is 72,000 patients long today. Last year, we recovered over 21,000 organs for transplant from just over 10,000 individuals. In the same amount of time, we added 38,850 people to the list. These numbers illustrate the urgency behind this issue. Ten people die every day because there was no organ available for transplant. The single greatest barrier to saving lives with organ transplants is the scarcity of available organs.

I realize that we are at the end of session and the likelihood of these bills being enacted is minimal. But it is a crucial time to introduce these concepts and ask for support on this vitally important legislation. I am hopeful we can use this time between now and the start of the new Congress to build consensus on these initiatives. I want to gather opinions and expertise from my fellow members and the patients, organizations, and experts in their districts. The sooner we can get the ball rolling on this issue, the faster we will be able to save lives. We must act now to make progress on this heartbreaking inadequacy.

The problem is easy to define. There are simply not enough organs to meet the needs of the patients waiting for them on the transplant lists. The challenge before us is to maximize the number of available organs and to maximize the recovery of organs available for donation. When an organ becomes available for transplant, we must spare no resource to ensure that it is delivered to a patient in need. We can do this in three ways. We must first educate more people about organ donation and encourage them to become organ donors. HHS should be congratulated for their efforts in this regard. Next we must invest in research and resources for hospitals and medical schools to improve the success rates of organ donation and options available to those who are in need of organ transplants. Finally, we must make absolutely sure that no organ goes to waste. Currently only a fraction of organs available for donation are actually recovered and made available for transplant. That's where this legislation comes into effect.

Today I rise to introduce the Organ Coordination Improvement Act, which would dramatically improve the organ recovery rate. I asked the experts in hospitals and in organ procurement organizations what the single best thing Congress could do to assist with organ recovery efforts. The answer was simple: provide more staff in the hospital dedicated to this effort. This deceptively simple answer points to a greater truth. Only a very few hospitals and Organ Procurement Organizations actually have specifically trained and dedicated staff in the very setting that they are needed most—the front lines of our health care system. When those staff do exist, they make a dramatic difference. A pilot program through HHS to put specifically trained Organ Coordinators in hospitals in Maryland and Texas had a dramatic effect. In one year, Organ Coordinators more than doubled the recovery rate for organs. By placing Organ Coordinators in the hospitals, hospital consortiums or OPOs with the greatest potential for organ coordination, there is a tremendous opportunity to double the number of lives saved through organ transplants.

This legislation does just that. The bill provides grants to fund staff positions for Organ

Coordinators. A person in this position would be charged with coordinating the organ donation and recovery efforts within a hospital, or in some cases, a group of hospitals.

Half of Organ Coordinators would be employed by hospitals and the other would be employed by Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs). Both hospitals and OPOs are leaders in organ recovery efforts and both should be involved in this process. To build on this positive partnership, a control board would be established to coordinate the activities of the Organ Coordinators. The control board would have representation from both the hospital and the OPO, irrespective of which entity received the grant.

By placing Organ Coordinators in the hospitals, hospital consortiums or OPOs with the greatest potential for organ coordination, there is a tremendous opportunity to double the number of lives saved through organ transplants. Hospitals and OPOs share an important goal and this bill will serve to augment local success stories and local partnerships that already exist in our communities.

The second bill that I am proposing is the Organ Donor Enhancement Act, which would establish a national living donor registry based on the National Bone Marrow Registry. Last year, 10,538 people made their organs available for transplants. Of these, 4,640 people were living donors. Last year there were 9,237 kidney transplants performed, 4,441 transplants from living donors. Clearly, organ transplants have progressed to the point where nearly 45 percent of all kidney transplants done in 1999 were from living donors.

Mr. Speaker, no longer must a patient on the transplant list wish for an organ to become available from a horrible accident. Now kidneys and livers may be transplanted from one person to another and we have an obligation to help save the lives of the more than 62,000 people waiting for them.

The National Bone Marrow Registry has operated successfully since 1986 by registering people who are willing to donate their bone marrow to save somebody's life. Sometimes these are family members, friends or even strangers who possess the courage and compassion to be a living organ donor. While maintaining the highest privacy protections for registered volunteers, doctors are able to search and locate potential organ matches. The sheer scale of a national organ registry will enhance the practice of organ transplantation with increased speed and efficiency that no other resource could offer.

The National Living Donor Registry aims to break down the largest barrier to organ transplantation. It increases the number of potential donors and establishes a mechanism for doctors to match organs to patients. Here in the shadow of the Capitol Dome, the Executive Director of the Washington Regional Transplant Consortium reports that more than 2 people a week contact her and inquire about becoming a living organ donor. Currently, living donors comprise 45 percent of all kidney transplants that are performed. The availability of living donors means particularly strong hope for liver and kidney transplants, especially because kidney patients make up two-thirds of the transplant wait list. The time is now for a voluntary, national list to enable these everyday heroes to become life-savers.

In the midst of a tragedy, an organ transplant can create something awesome. A tragedy can save a life. For grieving families, it

can be consolation that death has not struck in vain, and that indeed, their loved one continues to give energy and life. For thank every-day heroes who seek to become living donors, their gifts are the greatest gift of all. It is wondrous that medical technology has brought us so close to the miracle of life through organ transplant. Transplants have been performed since the 1960's and are now performed for 11 organs. Just last year, new types of liver transplants were being performed.

We must work to maximize our resources and make the most efficient use of them. There is no doubt about the need for organs. The potential lives that could be saved should encourage us to work on these two pieces of legislation to increase the number of recoverable organs and maximize the potential of available organs.

Lastly, I must offer my gratitude to the numerous patients, doctors, hospitals, organ procurement organizations and other individuals who offered valuable feedback on these bills. Many people have already put much time and effort in assisting me with the best ways to address organ scarcity. They have provided invaluable assistance and counsel, advice and criticism, and I thank them for their help. I ask my colleagues and others interested in organ recovery, organ donation and organ transplantation to examine these bills and provide me with their comments.

It is my hope that by introducing these bills, more patients and professionals in the field will be inspired by these efforts to work with me. It is essential that they continue to be generous in their comments, opinions, questions, criticism, and ultimately, support. I welcome the response of my colleagues on these two bills and look forward to further discussion next session.

IN HONOR OF LIEUTENANT EUGENE CANFIELD, DETECTIVE JOSEPH LOPEZ, AND POLICE OFFICER ANGEL MALDONADO, RECENT RETIREES FROM THE JERSEY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I honor three recently retired police officers, who have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting Jersey City, New Jersey.

Lieutenant Eugene Canfield, Detective Joseph Lopez, and Police Officer Angel Maldonado retired on September 1, 2000, after exceptional careers as law enforcement officers. During their careers, these fine officers held one principle foremost in their minds: namely, that residents of Jersey City need and deserve a safe community.

Lieutenant Eugene Canfield began his career as an officer with the Jersey City Police Department on September 11, 1976. He is the recipient of two excellent police service awards and one police commendation. Lieutenant Canfield served in Operations (Patrol Division); Special Patrol Bureau; Central Communications Bureau; and the Field Leadership and Training Unit. Lieutenant "Gene" Canfield was not only an exceptional police officer, but also a talented actor, playing Al Pacino's chauffeur in "Scent of a Woman."

Detective Joseph Lopez began his career as an officer with the Jersey City Police Department on September 11, 1976. He is the recipient of eight excellent police service awards, two commendations, the class "E" award, and a unit citation. Detective Lopez served in the East District Patrol; the Car Pound Administration; the Special Investigations Unit, the Auto Theft Squad, and the North District Detective Division.

Police Officer Angel Maldonado began his career with the Jersey City Police Department on February 23, 1981. He is the recipient of four excellent police service awards and two commendations. Officer Maldonado served in the Detective Squad; the Juvenile Bureau; the West District Patrol; and the East District Patrol.

I commend these officers for their courage and commitment, and I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring them today.

JERSEY SHORE HUMANITARIANS HONORED

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on September 21, the Jersey Shore Chapter of The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) held its 32nd Anniversary Humanitarian Awards ceremony. NCCJ is a national human relations organization with local chapters dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry, and racism. It promotes understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution and education.

So it is with great pride that I congratulate the recipients of this year's awards for their outstanding community service to the Jersey Shore, much of which I represent in Congress. They include:

Dr. Frank Arlinghaus, founder of our Congressional Award, chairman and president of the N.J. Congressional Award Council, Naval Reserve captain and Special Assistant for Reserve Affairs to the Medical Officer of the Marine Corps, and a pulmonary and critical care physician in Red Bank, N.J.;

Bahiyah Abdullah, director of Marketing and Membership for the Ocean County Girl Scout Council for the last 12 years and active in numerous civic organizations, including the NAACP, Ocean County Human Relations Commission and Jack and Jill of America;

Solomon S. Greenspan, managing partner of Rudolf, Cinnamon & Calafato, LLC. He is on the board of the Monmouth County Jewish Federation, and the Urban League and is a Councilman for the Township of Ocean. He is past president of the Monmouth County Jewish Community Center and United Way.

The following two physicians helped develop the Parker Family Health Clinic, a free health center on Red Bank's west side:

Dr. Eugene F. Cheslock, an internist, is executive vice president of Meridian Health System, Riverview Medical Center's Riverview Foundation. He is past president of the Monmouth County Cancer Society and has received prestigious awards from the Urban League and the Salvation Army, among others.

Dr. Timothy Sullivan, an otolaryngologist, is senior vice president for medical affairs at Meridian Health System, Riverview Medical Center. He is a member of the Boards of Trustees of Volunteers in Medicine and Rio Vista Equipo Medico. He also serves as co-leader of medical missions to Guatemala to provide medical care, including cleft palate surgery.

The Women's Center of Monmouth County has, for 24 years, provided invaluable services to families affected by domestic violence and sexual assault and has received five major awards for its outstanding work. Anna M. Diaz-White, executive director and a staff member for 16 years, accepted the award on behalf of the Center. I congratulate Ms. Diaz White and all the staffers and volunteers who make the Center the valuable community asset that it is.

The Jersey Shore Chapter of NCCJ also applauded Anytown, NJ, a week-long program for high school students in which they break barriers, deal with biased behavior and develop an action plan to reduce prejudice in their hometowns.

I have worked with Dr. Arlinghaus for many years on the Congressional Award which seeks to encourage strong values and community service. Before that, he worked with the late Rep. James J. Howard, the original sponsor of the law enacting the Congressional Award program. Because of his association with an important Congressional initiative, I wanted to share with my colleagues a excerpts from his acceptance speech:

I submit the following excerpts from Dr. Arlinghaus's September 21 speech into the RECORD.

"It was many years ago this month that Joe Gouthro and I met the then Congressman Howard to describe to him a dream called the Congressional Award and ten years later it became a Public Law. Since that very humble beginning much has passed into our history. And from that very unique experience of working with Congress, I have observed many unique events and personalities and beg your indulgence to share a thought and a theme with you this evening.

A new millennium has begun and our republic stands as what has been described as the world's indispensable nation. Two thousand years ago the Roman Empire in the western world occupied very much the same position economically, militarily and in the minds of those who lived then. The mythic story of the founding of the Roman Republic by the poet Virgil in the Aeneid emphasized one essential point, one essential virtue, one essential value. Aeneas was pious. He was humble before his "gods" and from that piety flowed his strength and the future moral vibrancy of Rome. When Aeneas lost his piety, when Rome forsake that piety, when individual citizens abandoned that value, Rome was lost."

"... Like pious Aeneas we are warned by history how important these values are. Can we be successful in keeping our sense of Community or our sense of Justice without such values? Whether it be through the NCCJ or the Congressional Award or through the works of our fellow citizens: Bahiyah and Sol, Eugene and Tim, and the Women's Center, these values are self-evident and command our allegiance. Such values are at the heart of the wonderful acts of service of my more-than-distinguished co-recipients this evening. As Hans Kung the noted philosopher and moralist wrote "the will of the almighty is carried out through service to human beings." And as our Founding Fathers prayed: "We have given you a Republic. It is up to you to keep it."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I rise in strong support of the National Defense Authorization Conference Report H.R. 4205.

I would like to thank Mr. SPENCE, Mr. SKELTON, Subcommittee Chairs, Ranking Members, and of course Committee Staff for all the hard work that they put into reconciling the Defense Authorization Bill.

This year's Authorization Bill makes great strides toward improving Modernization, Quality of Life, and Military Readiness.

First, Military Health Care is getting on the right track, but we still have a lot of work to do to improve service to active duty and retired service members.

Second, Recruiting and Retention are showing signs of improvement, but will be a constant challenge during strong economies and changing demographics.

Although this committee has made significant improvements in quality of life benefits, I'm concerned that the junior ranks do not understand what these improvements mean to them.

According to a DoD survey of service members, basic pay is the number one reason to stay or leave the military.

But do they understand the value of their benefits, beyond take home pay, when they make their decision to leave?

I have introduced legislation, H.R. 4388, which provides service members information on their benefits, to including VA benefits, the value of those benefits, and how their benefits compare to civilian counterparts.

Given this information, I hope more may understand the grass is not necessarily greener on the other side and opt to make a career out of military service.

I thank the Committee for acknowledging the merits of this legislation by including reporting language in this bill requiring the Department of Defense to report on what the Department is doing in educating service members on the value of their benefits.

Third, I would like to commend the Committee on their work in improving R&D accounts, specifically Science and Technology.

R&D is the future of this Nation's defense. We should not shortchange our future to fund present day shortfalls. R&D is critical in maintaining the technological edge to combat the growing and changing threats to our Nation's security.

Finally, I would like to commend the Committee for incorporating H.R. 3396 in the Defense Authorization Bill and look at California as a potential production site for the Joint Strike Fighter.

An independent study found that building the JSF at the Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California could save upwards of \$2 billion over the life of the project.

These savings are based on state and local economic incentives, such as tax credits, and inherent capabilities, such as the existing 1.2

million square foot B-2 production facility, highly trained aerospace work force, and close proximity to test facilities.

If we are asking taxpayers to support the best manned, equipped, and trained fighting force in the world, we must ensure it's the most cost effective fighting force in the world.

In closing, I commend all the Committee Chairs, Ranking Members and Staff for working with their Senate counterparts to produce a bipartisan bill that looks out for those who serve and preserve our role as the World's premier fighting force.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MIRIAM GOBSTOOB
CANTER

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, October 12, 2000 the name of the Louis Wirth Experimental School in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood will be changed to honor one of its founders: Miriam Gobstob Canter.

Almost one year after Miriam died, it will be a fitting tribute to the life of a most remarkable woman who devoted much of her life to public education.

Miriam Gobstob was born in 1923 in Boston, Massachusetts. She attended Boston University and joined the Women's Air Corps in 1944. She devoted herself to the war effort and was a part of the successful effort to integrate her company.

After the war, and her honorable discharge, she joined the first all-women's Jewish War Veteran's Post. She became a commander of that post and later in life commander of the Chicago Jewish War Veteran's Post, the only woman to command two such posts.

In 1956 she married David S. Canter and moved to Chicago where she dived into work, family and community activism.

Their children, Marc, Evan and Anna drew Miriam into a lifetime commitment to education including President of the Kenwood-Ellis Co-operative Nursery School, President of the Shoesmith School PTA, President of Wirth School PTA, President of Kenwood High School PTA, President of Metro High School PTA, Community Representative of Wirth Local School Council.

She was recognized with awards including the Distinguished Service Award for 25 years of service to public education at Wirth School and the Achievement Award for 10 years Service for Local School Council participation.

There were many other facets to Miriam's love of community and country.

She worked for over 20 years at Michael Reese Hospital, was a founding board member of the Michael Reese Health Plan and the Women's Health Initiative. She was active in protecting the rights and interests of hospital workers.

Miriam made her home a center for activism and was fiercely active in the struggle for civil rights, banning nuclear weapons and in opposition to the war in Vietnam. From freedom marches and peace meetings to fund-raising events and making sandwiches no job was too big or too small for Miriam.

She was awarded (posthumously) the Unsung Heroine Award by the Cook County Women's Commission.

Miriam's home was a joyous place to visit. She was a hostess par excellence, and, according to at least one eye witness was a key player in the greatest little floating mah jongg game in Chicago.

Miriam is survived by her husband, three children, six grandchildren and uncounted friends, neighbors and coworkers. She will be remembered not only because her name is affixed to a public middle school, but because her name is indelibly engraved in the hearts of all those who knew her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2000, I was on an airplane returning from my district and missed the following votes: H.R. 208, to amend Title 5, U.S. Code, to allow for the contribution of certain rollover distributions to accounts in the Thrift Savings Plan; H.R. 762, the Lupus Research and Care Amendments; and S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three of these votes (#519, #520 and #521).

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. DALE
STRAYHORN, PRINCIPAL OF RO-
CHELLE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
LENOIR COUNTY, NORTH CARO-
LINA

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, for almost two decades, Mrs. Dale Strayhorn has quietly and effectively touched the lives of hundreds of young people. As a teacher, school administrator and principal, she has helped our communities meet the challenge of child-raising.

She has now brought her considerable energy and expertise to Rochelle Middle School in Lenoir County, North Carolina, where she currently serves as principal. Since arriving at Rochelle, she has made every student feel important and has made every parent feel that the education of their child is being taken very seriously.

Dale Strayhorn is an educator, a mentor, an advisor, an advocate, a counselor, a visionary. She cares. She dares to be different, and she has made a difference. But, her path to excellence has not been easy. Like all who teach well, she first had to learn. One of eight children, she was instructed by her father to "get a job or go to college." She did both. She attended North Carolina Central University in Durham, and she took on the tough task of raising her daughter Gwen, beginning in her Sophomore year.

Over the years, Mrs. Strayhorn has taught elementary school, taught military-dependent children and taught alternative school children,

among many other experiences. In all instances, she has emphasized character building, skill development and preparation for the future.

Despite her many accomplishments and her tireless agenda, she has always found time to be a devoted wife, a loving mother, a dedicated daughter and a dutiful member of her church. While balancing many responsibilities, she has never neglected to balance her priorities—those things most important in life—family, friends, neighbors, community and church.

Those who are charged with the education, growth and development of our young people must be among the best, the brightest, the most honorable. They must love what they do and conduct themselves with the highest standards and with impeccable integrity. Mrs. Dale Strayhorn meets and exceeds all of those qualities.

While she has assumed the role of Principal at Rochelle, above all, she is a teacher, one who guides, instructs and paints a path for others to follow. She deserves our praise and adulation.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the University of Rochester Medical Center.

From quality, compassionate patient care to cutting-edge research to individualized student education, the University of Rochester Medical Center has earned a nationwide reputation for excellence. Since its founding by Dean George Hoyt Whipple, the School of Dentistry and Medicine has produced some of our country's most skilled doctors and researchers, whose commitment to the art of healing has made a real difference in the lives of countless people and families.

To continue their tradition of excellence and prominence, the University of Rochester Medical Center will today mark the investiture of three deans, who will build on the center's successes heading into its second 75 years of service. They are Patricia Chiverton, Ed.D., R.N., EN.A.P., third dean of the School of Nursing; Deborah Cory-Slechta, Ph.D., first dean of Research of the School of Medicine and Dentistry and Director of the Aab Institute of Biomedical Sciences; and Edward Hundert, M.D., as the eighth dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House of Representatives join me in saluting the achievements of the University of Rochester Medical Center on the occasion of their 75 Anniversary, and that this Congress join with me in wishing continued success upon the celebration of the investiture of Deans Hundert, Cory-Slechta and Chiverton.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3044, VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, there have been many members who have supported my efforts to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. One such member, Representative LLOYD DOGGETT, spoke in support of this legislation and also sought to become a cosponsor of this act. Unfortunately, a communication error in the clerk's office precluded him from being added as an official cosponsor. I would like to thank Mr. DOGGETT for his efforts in support and cosponsorship of this legislation

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to my duties at the presidential debate last night, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 526, on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2415 to enhance Security of United States missions and personnel overseas, I would have voted "yea;" Rollcall vote 525, on agreeing to the Conference Report for the Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations, I would have voted "nay;" and Rollcall vote 524, on ordering the Previous Question to waive points of order against the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2415 to enhance Security of United States missions and personnel overseas, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF MRS. FARAH M. WALTERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mrs. Farah M. Walters who has been awarded the title of "Woman of Achievement" for her outstanding work in the field of health services.

Farah M. Walters has led a remarkable 32 year career in the health care industry. Her commitment to the well-being of the community is an example to us all. She has received due recognition for her remarkable public service. In June 2000, Mrs. Walters was awarded the March of Dimes Golden Mile Award for her leadership and dedication to saving babies. In addition to local community service, she was appointed to Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton's National Health Care Reform Task Force. Later that year, "Modern Healthcare" selected her as one of 50 individuals to shape future development of American health care. She

has demonstrated commendable dedication to all aspects of the health care field.

In her career, Mrs. Walters has undertaken positions of great responsibility. As president and chief executive officer of University Hospitals Health System and University Hospitals of Cleveland, she presides over a system that includes more than 15,000 employees, working in over 100 health service locations in 55 Northeast Ohio communities. While under Farah Walters' leadership, University Hospitals of Cleveland received the Exemplary Voluntary Effort (EVE) Award from the U.S. Department of Labor. This continuing commitment to one of the most important areas of public service deserves to be rewarded with due recognition and respect.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in honoring Mrs. Farah M. Walters whose outstanding community-based work has earned her the distinguished accolade, "Woman of Achievement."

THE ENVIRONMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, for me, three key issues that we must as a community and a nation address are environmental justice, sprawl and livability, and the need to protect California's and the country's ecosystems.

All three of these issues are linked to a crucial concern that is very much on Americans' minds right now: energy.

Rising oil prices and falling home fuel oil supplies both point out one clear, absolute fact: fossil fuels represent a limited and gradually disappearing resource.

We need to address this problem today.

The answer to our oil problem does not lie in pillaging the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, a precious, fragile, and unique ecosystem.

It does not lie in keeping current lax standards for gas mileage.

It does not lie in denying the basic fact that our planet is growing warmer and that the burning of fossil fuels is a significant factor in global warming.

It does not lie in polluting our soil, our water, our air, and our children with toxins.

The answers have to lie in conservation and innovation.

One answer is to raise the corporate average fuel economy standards across the board: Detroit can build more efficient cars; we need to increase the incentives to buy them and increase the disincentives to use gasoline wastefully.

California is leading the way in promoting greater fuel efficiency and searching for alternative energy technologies.

We need to work toward fuel cells, hybrid cars, and other alternative technologies.

We need to invest in mass transit. It will cost money but the dividends in reduced pollution, increased conservation, and reduced sprawl will be far greater than the initial price tags.

And we need to undertake these efforts today.

Our environment depends on it and in the long run so does our economy.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 4721

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the benefit of the Members a copy of the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 4721, a bill to provide for all right, title, and interest in and to certain property in Washington County, Utah, to be vested in the United States.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 10, 2000.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 4721, an act to provide for all right, title, and interest in and to certain property in Washington County, Utah, to be vested in the United States.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them,

The CBO staff contacts are John R. Righter (for federal costs), and Lauren Marks (for the private-sector impact).

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

H.R. 4721—An act to provide for all right, title, and interest in and to certain property in Washington County, Utah, to be vested in the United States

H.R. 4721 would transfer about 1,550 acres in real property in Washington County, Utah, to the federal government. As compensation for the government's taking of private property, the legislation would provide an immediate payment of \$15 million, with a subsequent amount to be paid to Environmental Land Technology, Ltd., the property owner, at a later date. The amount of the second payment would depend, in part, on whether the federal government could negotiate a settlement with the property owner.

Under a negotiated settlement, the second payment would include the difference between the property's appraised value and the initial payment of \$15 million, plus interest accrued from the date of the legislation's enactment. Alternatively, if the amount of the second payment is decided in a court of law, it would include the remaining property

value as determined by the court, accrued interest, reasonable expenses of holding the property from February 1990 to the date of the final payment, and reasonable court costs and attorneys' fees. The legislation would provide the full faith and credit of the United States to make such payments without further appropriation.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 4721 would increase direct spending by \$15 million in fiscal year 2001. The amount of the second payment is uncertain and will probably be determined in court. Based on information from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), CBO estimates that a second payment of \$43 million would be made in 2002. The estimated total of \$58 million is the midpoint between the government's and the property owner's estimates of the property's value (between \$30 million and \$70 million), plus accrued interest and reasonable property and court-related expenses. This estimate assumes that, based on the wide difference in their estimates of the property's value, the two sides would be unable to negotiate an out-of-court settlement. Because H.R. 4721 would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. The changes in direct spending are shown in the following table.

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars									
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Changes in outlays	15	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Changes in receipts	(1) ¹	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

¹ Not applicable.

In addition, because it is possible that BLM would have purchased the property under current law using funds appropriated from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, implementing the legislation could reduce the need for future appropriations.

H.R. 4721 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. H.R. 4721 would impose a private-sector mandate, as defined in UMRA, on the property owner who would be required to confer his property to the federal government. CBO estimates that the cost of complying with the mandate would fall below the annual threshold established by UMRA (\$109 million in 2000, adjusted annually for inflation).

The legislation would require, 30 days after enactment, the landowner to confer to the United States all right, title, and interest in and to, his property located within and adjacent to the Red Cliffs Reserve. That requirement would be a mandate as defined in UMRA. The cost of complying with the mandate would be the fair market value of the land, expenses incurred and lost interest in transferring the property to the federal government, and the costs of relocating. Estimates of the value of the property range between \$30 million and \$70 million. Thus, CBO expects that the direct costs of complying with the mandate would fall below the threshold established by UMRA (\$109 million for private-sector mandates in 2000, adjusted annually for inflation). The legislation provides that, in exchange for his land, the landowner would receive an initial payment \$15 million, as well as a subsequent payment to be determined either through a negotiated settlement or through litigation.

On October 10, 2000, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 2873, a similar bill reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on October 2, 2000. CBO's two cost estimates are identical.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are John R. Righter (for federal costs) and

Lauren Marks (for the private-sector impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 426
CONCERNING THE VIOLENCE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the past two weeks have seen tension in the Middle East spiral out of control as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat attempts to dictate Israeli concessions at the negotiating table through the unbridled use of violence, and, most appallingly, through the manipulation of young children as "martyrs in training".

This massive and fundamental violation of the Oslo Accords is intentional, as underscored when the leader of the Tanzim paramilitary forces in the West Bank said yesterday that his organization would escalate the confrontations with Israel and not try to calm the situation. Marwan Barghuti said, "This blessed Intifada is looking ahead and the mass activity is moving forward".

Mr. Speaker, in today's latest outrage, a Palestinian mob killed two Israeli soldiers and dumped their bloodied bodies in the street after the pair were captured with two other servicemen earlier today in the Palestinian city of Ramallah.

That is why I felt compelled to introduce a resolution, H. Con. Res. 426 on behalf of myself and Mr. GEJDENSON, our ranking Minority Member on the House International Relations Committee, condemning the Palestinian vio-

lence, and expressing congressional support for the people of Israel at this time of crisis.

The Palestinians must understand that you can't have it both ways. The Government of Israel has made clear to the world its commitment to peace time and time again. We see that the Palestinian response is violence.

Accordingly, I submit the text H. Con. Res. 426 to be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and urge our colleagues to strongly support this.

H. CON. RES. 426

Whereas the Arab-Israeli Conflict must be resolved by peaceful negotiation;

Whereas since 1993 Israel and the Palestinians have been engaged in intensive negotiations over the future of the West Bank and Gaza;

Whereas the United States, through its consistent support of Israel and the cause of peace, made the current peace process possible;

Whereas the underlying basis of those negotiations was recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) by Israel in exchange for the renunciation of violence by the PLO and its Chairman Yasser Arafat, first expressed in a letter to then-Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin dated September 9, 1993, in which Mr. Arafat stated: "[T]he PLO renounces the use of terrorism and other acts of violence, and will assume responsibility over all PLO elements and personnel in order to assure their compliance, prevent violations and discipline violators.";

Whereas as a result of those negotiations, the Palestinians now fully control over 40 percent of the West Bank and Gaza, with over 95 percent of the Palestinian population under the civil administration of the Palestinian Authority;

Whereas as a result of peace negotiations, Israel turned over control of these areas to

the Palestinian Authority with the clear understanding and expectation that the Palestinians would maintain order and security there;

Whereas the Palestinian Authority, with the assistance of Israel and the international community, created a strong police force, almost twice the number allowed under the Oslo Accords, specifically to maintain public order;

Whereas the Government of Israel made clear to the world its commitment to peace at Camp David, where it expressed its readiness to take wide-ranging and painful steps in order to bring an end to the conflict, but these proposals were rejected by Chairman Arafat;

Whereas perceived provocations must only be addressed at the negotiating table;

Whereas it is only through negotiations, and not through violence, that the Palestinians can hope to achieve their political aspirations;

Whereas even in the face of the desecration of Joseph's Tomb, a Jewish holy site in the West Bank, the Government of Israel has made it clear that it will withdraw forces from Palestinian areas if the Palestinian Authority maintains order in those areas; and

Whereas the Palestinian leadership not only did too little for far too long to control the violence, but in fact encouraged it: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) expresses its solidarity with the state and people of Israel at this time of crisis;

(2) condemns the Palestinian leadership for encouraging the violence and doing so little for so long to stop it, resulting in the senseless loss of life;

(3) calls upon the Palestinian leadership to refrain from any exhortations to public incitement, urges the Palestinian leadership to vigorously use its security forces to act immediately to stop all violence, to show respect for all holy sites, and to settle all grievances through negotiations;

(4) commends successive Administrations on their continuing efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East;

(5) urges the current Administration to use its veto power at the United Nations Security Council to ensure that the Security Council does not again adopt unbalanced resolutions addressing the uncontrolled violence in the areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority; and

(6) calls on all parties involved in the Middle East conflict to make all possible efforts to reinvigorate the peace process in order to prevent further senseless loss of life by all sides.

CALLING FOR AN FDA INVESTIGATION INTO ABUSE OF AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE SYSTEM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, last week, I sent the following letter to the FDA, in support of an investigation concerning how some of the nation's leading drug manufacturers are using false pricing data to distort the practice of medicine in America.

The letter details what I believe to be the bilking of the Medicare system by a number of large, powerful drug companies. The evidence I have been provided shows that certain drug companies are making enormous profits avail-

able to many doctors on the "spread" between what Medicare and other payers reimburse for a drug (the average wholesale price), and what that drug is really available for.

These companies have increased their sales by abusing the public trust and exploiting America's seniors and disabled. It is my firm belief that these practices must stop and that these companies must return the money to the public that is owed because of their abusive practices.

The data in the letter is an indictment of the companies' abuse of the taxpayer and of the patient.

The letter follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 3, 2000.

Dr. JANE E. HENNEY,
Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration,
Rockville, MD.

DEAR DR. HENNEY: I would like to share with you concerns I have regarding the conduct of certain drug companies that are regulated by your agency. Internal drug company documents and other evidence from an industry insider, obtained through a Congressional investigation, have exposed deliberate price manipulation by some drug companies. I believe drug companies' misleading acts are exploiting the health care needs of our most seriously ill, poor, disabled and elderly citizens and taking money from the pockets of innocent Medicare beneficiaries who are required to pay 20% of Medicare's current limited drug benefit. These wrongful actions cost federal and state governments, private insurers, and others billions of dollars per year in excessive drug payments and corrupt the professional independence of medical decision makers.

The compelling evidence recently amassed by Congressional investigators reveals that certain drug companies have been reporting and publishing inflated and misleading price data and have engaged in other deceptive business practices in order to manipulate and inflate the prices of certain drugs. The drug manufacturers have perpetrated this fraudulent price manipulation scheme for the express purpose of causing the Medicare and Medicaid Programs to expend excessive amounts in paying claims for certain drugs. The inflated reimbursement arranged by certain drug companies is used to aggressively market the drugs in question, to influence physician prescribing practices, and to increase sales and market share.

The evidence I have seen indicates that the drug companies involved have knowingly, deliberately, and falsely inflated their representations of the average wholesale price ("AWP"), wholesaler acquisition cost ("WAC") and direct price ("DP") which are utilized by the Medicare and Medicaid programs in establishing drug reimbursements to providers. The evidence also clearly establishes that, contrary to previous drug company representations, the initial source of the price data is the drug companies themselves and those acting in concert with them. I have learned that the difference between the inflated AWP and WAC versus the true prices paid by providers is regularly referred to by industry insiders as "the spread."

The Congressional investigation establishes that this "spread" has not occurred accidentally but is the product of conscious and fully-informed business decisions. Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) documents, for example, demonstrate drug company control over the spread and knowledge that the spread acts as a financial inducement that affects medical judgments. I am told that BMS, as the innovator of the cancer drug

Etoposide, repeatedly published inflated prices of approximately \$138 while the true market price fell to less than \$10. BMS then developed Etopophos, a newer, therapeutically superior substitute for Etoposide. As the following excerpts from BMS' own documents reveal, BMS' earlier participation in the false price manipulation scheme with Etoposide interfered with physician medical decisions to use Etopophos:

"The Etopophos product profile is significantly superior to that of etoposide injection . . ." (Exhibit #1).

"Currently, physician practices can take advantage of the growing disparity between VePesid's [name brand for Etoposide] list price (and, subsequently, the Average Wholesale Price [AWP]) and the actual acquisition cost when obtaining reimbursement for etoposide purchases. If the acquisition price of Etopophos is close to the list price, the physician's financial incentive for selecting the brand is largely diminished" (Exhibit #2).

BMS' control over the AWP's published for its drugs is revealed in the following excerpt from a letter to the national publisher of drug prices relied on by the Medicaid Program:

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company:
"Edward Edelstein, First Data Bank . . .
"DEAR MR. EDELSTEIN: Effective immediately, Bristol-Myers Oncology Division products factor used in determining the AWP should be changed from 20.5% to 25%. This change should not affect any other business of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company" (Exhibit #3).

As a result of BMS' instructions, I am told First Data Bank recalculated BMS' AWP's and reported them to the State Medicaid agencies and Medicare Carriers as a BMS price increase when in truth it was nothing more than a means of creating a greater "spread" for BMS drugs.

Additionally, the drug companies in question often falsely state that they have no control over the AWP's and other prices published for their drugs. Comparing the following excerpts from a 1996 *Barron's* article entitled, "Hooked On Drugs," and Immunex's own internal documents reveals that drug companies do indeed have control over their prices:

"But Immunex, with a thriving generic cancer-drug business, says its average wholesale prices aren't its own. 'The drug manufacturers have no control over the AWP's published . . .,' says spokeswoman Valerie Dowell" (Exhibit #5).

"Kathleen Stamm, Immunex Corporation . . .

"DEAR KATHLEEN: This letter is a confirmation letter that we have received and entered your latest AWP price changes in our system. The price changes that were effective January 3, 1996 were posted in our system on January 5, 1996. I have enclosed an updated copy of your Red Book listing for your files. If there is anything else I could help you with do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely, Lisa Brandt, Red Book Data Analyst" (Exhibit #6)

The drug companies involved are well aware of the destructive impact their price manipulation has on prescription drug costs, as stated in the following excerpt from a Glaxo internal document:

"Is the [pharmaceutical] industry helping to moderate health care costs when it implements policies that increase the cost of pharmaceuticals to government?" (Exhibit #4).

These examples of clear deception appear to be "only the tip of the iceberg" as demonstrated by the evidence reflected in composite Exhibit #5. This evidence indicates that an official of the state of Florida Medicaid pharmacy program contacted Hoechst

Marion Roussel directly requesting pricing information for Hoechst's new drug Anzemet. Exhibit #5 is a copy of the fax sent to the Florida Official by Hoechst containing Hoechst representations of its prices.

The following chart represents a comparison of Hoechst's fraudulent price representations for its injectable form of the drug versus the actual prices paid by the industry insider. The industry insider was aware that a 100 mg vial of Anzemet could be purchased from a wholesaler/distributor for \$70.00. The chart compares Hoechst's price representations for the tablet form of Anzemet and the insider's true prices. It is extremely interesting that Hoechst did not create a spread for its tablet form of Anzemet but only the injectable form. This is because Medicare reimburses doctors for the injectable form of this drug and not the tablet form. And by providing doctors a profit, Hoechst can influence prescribing. The tablet form is usually dispensed by pharmacists who accept the doctor's order. This example reflects the frustration that federal and state regulators have experienced in their attempts to estimate the truthful prices being paid by providers in the marketplace for prescription drugs. Likewise, it underscores that we cannot rely upon the drug companies to make honest and truthful representations of their prices, and that Congress may be left with no alternative other than to legislate price controls.

Some drug companies have also utilized a large array of other impermissible inducements to mask true prices and stimulate sales of their drugs. These inducements, including bogus "educational grants," volume discounts, and rebates or free goods are designed to result in a lower net cost to the purchaser, while concealing the actual cost beneath a high invoice price. A product invoiced at \$100 for ten units of a drug item might really only cost the purchaser half that amount. Given, for instance, a subsequent shipment of an additional ten units at no charge, or a "grant," "rebate" or "credit memo" in the amount of \$50, the transaction would truly cost a net of only \$5.00 per unit. Through all of these "off-invoice" means, drug purchasers are provided substantial discounts in exchange for their patronage, while maintaining the fiction of a higher invoice price—the price that corresponds to reported AWP's and inflated reimbursement from the government (Composite Exhibit #6):

The above document is particularly disturbing as it indicates that at least one purpose of "masking" the final price with free goods is so that the Federal Supply Schedule ("FSS") falsely appears to be less than that of the hospital price.

Such misleading statements about pharmaceutical products by drug companies clearly entails deliberate price manipulation and in my opinion appears to be directly contrary to the letter and spirit of FDA law. For example, in 1997 Pharmacia & Upjohn reported an AWP of \$946.94 for 200 mg. of Adriamycin PFS while it was offering to sell it to doctor groups such as American Oncology Resources for \$168.00 and to Comprehensive Cancer Center for \$152.00 (Composite Exhibit #7). Pharmacia & Upjohn then aggressively marketed its cancer drugs to health care providers by touting the financial inducements created by the false price representations and other types of monetary payments. It is apparent that Pharmacia & Upjohn created and marketed the financial inducements for the express purpose of influencing the professional judgment of doctors and other health care providers.

Moreover, Pharmacia & Upjohn's strategy of increasing the sales of its drugs by enriching, with taxpayer dollars, the doctors and

others who administer them is reprehensible and a blatant abuse of the privileges that Pharmacia & Upjohn enjoys as a major pharmaceutical manufacturer in the United States. This is perhaps best illustrated by Pharmacia & Upjohn's own internal documents which reveal that it actually abused its position as a drug innovator in an initial Phase III FDA clinical trial for a cancer drug used to treat lymphoma, as detailed in Composite Exhibit #8:

The linking of doctor participation in FDA clinical drug trials to the purchase and administration of profit-generating oncology drugs is entirely inconsistent with the objective scientific testing that is vital to the integrity of the trial. I am hopeful that the FDA will take immediate action to stop such behavior. Such quid pro quo in connection with new drug trials cannot be tolerated.

Doctors must be free to choose drugs based on what is medically best for their patients. It is highly unethical for drug companies to provide physicians with payments for FDA clinical trials and inflated price reports that financially induce doctors to administer their drugs to patients. In particular, Pharmacia & Upjohn's conduct, along with the conduct of other drug companies, is estimated to have cost taxpayers over a billion dollars. It also has a corrupting influence on the exercise of independent medical judgment both in the treatment of severely ill cancer patients and in the medical evaluation of new oncological drugs.

My reading of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the corresponding regulations suggests that the FDA should pay particular attention to these misleading drug company actions. Accordingly, I am requesting that the FDA conduct a comprehensive investigation into drug company business practices.

Notwithstanding potential prohibitions under the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act, it appears drug manufacturers purposely create confusion and make false and misleading statements about drug pricing in order to deceive the United States Government and the States' Medicaid Programs. Recently there has been much media coverage of this issue—an article entitled "Drugmakers Accused of Price Scheme" in the USA Today and one entitled "How Drug Makers Influence Medicare Reimbursements to Doctors" in the Wall Street Journal.

In the larger sense, this letter and its accompanying exhibits raise questions of drug companies' wrongful influence on physician prescribing behavior, which leads to unsafe medical practice in the U.S. In light of these findings, I urge you to undertake a comprehensive review to ensure Americans are prescribed pharmaceuticals that are safe and effective. Physician prescribing should be based on need, not greed. I am extremely concerned that profit may be causing the public to be prescribed drugs that are not safe and effective for patients.

I have referred this evidence to you so that you may take action against these fraudulent schemes and, if appropriate, enforce relevant law and FDA regulations. I hope that you will take any and all administrative actions to ensure the integrity of drug pricing on behalf of the safety of the American public. And I look forward to discussing with you any necessary legislative solutions.

Sincerely,

PETE STARK,
Member of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR MALAN TINKER ST. CLAIR, AN OUTSTANDING WEST VIRGINIAN, ON HIS RETIREMENT AS U.S. SENATE DOORKEEPER

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, two days ago our distinguished senior Senator from West Virginia, ROBERT C. BYRD, rose on the floor to pay tribute to "Tinker" St. Clair of McDowell County, West Virginia. At the end of this year, Tinker St. Clair will retire from his post as senior Doorkeeper in the U.S. Senate after 21 years of distinguished service to that body.

Mr. Speaker, that is but a small part of this man's remarkable contribution to his family, his community, his State and his Nation.

When Arthur St. Clair was a toddler, he was an active little boy which led his grandmother to call him a "little stinker." His envious brother, who couldn't yet pronounce all his words, called him "a little tinker," and the nickname "Tinker" has remained with Arthur to this day.

Arthur "Tinker" St. Clair, born on January 6, 1916, is today 84 years old, having lived a busy, varied life with his late wife of 56 years, Elnora Hall St. Clair, raising their children Patty Lee and Linda, now Linda St. Clair Pence, wife of Ed Pence. Tinker is looking forward to his retirement, so that he can spend some quality time with his three grandchildren, Kimberly George, and Edwin Bryan and Mack Malan Pence. Tinker also looks forward to his greatest love, spending time with his two great-grandchildren, Nicholas Paul George and Jonathan Malan George.

Being a West Virginian, Tinker is the descendant from his father William Woods St. Clair, coal miner, school board member, and small businessman, and his homemaker mother Etta Mae Cochran St. Clair. Tinker was brought up with a strong work ethic, family values, and more than a gentle nudge toward community service handed down by his parents and grandparents, in what has been called "the free state of McDowell."

Mr. Speaker, I have the honor to represent McDowell County, West Virginia, Tinker's homeplace. I just as importantly have the honor of calling Tinker a dear and true friend from day one. Over the years, this southernmost county has seen a decline in population from 100,000 coal miners and their families, to today's count of approximately 30,000 men, women and children. The population drop was brought about when coal mines began to mechanize, and during those years of decline, unemployment has remained higher than the national average for the people who remained in McDowell County. It was the good, strong, determined people like Tinker St. Clair who stayed in the county and who never stopped helping his people in good times and in bad, until his retirement there in 1979.

Upon graduating from Gary High School in 1937, his first job was driving a school bus for McDowell County Public Schools. That is when he first met his future wife, Elnora. Once he was married and raising his children, Tinker went to work in 1941 for the Consolidated Bus Lines (which later became Continental Trailways), where he worked until 1947. Realizing how important transportation was and is

for his community of deep valleys and winding roads, it wasn't long before Tinker started his own taxi service company in 1947, serving Welch, Pineville and Oceana, West Virginia.

But Tinker was born of parents who were also deeply involved in community affairs, and he and his wife Elnora were always ready, willing and able when it came to serving on local political committees, and both were active in the Democratic party of McDowell County West Virginia. As Tinker will tell you, McDowell County went Democratic in 1934 when the first-ever Democrat was elected, and the county has remained a democratic stronghold, with Tinker's help, ever since.

Tinker was proud to be politically active, and he traveled around the county campaigning for Harry Truman, John F. Kennedy, and Lyndon Baines Johnson. He also traveled the county with the late Senator Jennings Randolph, with our senior Senator ROBERT C. BYRD, JAY ROCKEFELLER, and NICK J. RAHALL—and I can tell you that it was a great pleasure whenever I found myself at Elnora's table many, many times during my own campaigns for the House. Tinker recalls that when traveling the county with Ben Cartwright of Bonanza fame, he invited him and his associates back to his home for a home cooked meal—requiring his wife Elnora to have to scramble to fix the meal on a moment's notice—but she did it with great pleasure, for she was as committed as Tinker to helping out the folks running for the Presidency, including Hubert H. Humphrey during his West Virginia campaign.

Tinker gave up the taxi business to become the Deputy Sheriff and Court Bailiff in McDowell County, during which time he became a Member of the McDowell County Democratic Executive Committee, and was a delegate to the National Convention in the years 1952 to 1965. He then became a criminal investigator for the county's prosecuting attorney, and a justice of the peace. Finally, Arthur "Tinker" St. Clair was appointed to the position of County Clerk, and afterwards was reelected to a six year term with a majority vote of 89 percent. That wasn't machine politics folks, that was pure Tinker.

Actually, Tinker hadn't thought of retiring at the age of 63 as County Clerk in 1979, but his children had all moved up to the Washington, D.C. area, and his wife Elnora tired of traveling back and forth to see her grandchildren. So one day, Elnora told Tinker she was once again visiting her children, and he asked her when she would get back. She said she wasn't coming back. That's when Tinker retired from the County Clerk's position and followed his beloved wife of 56 years to Washington.

Now Elnora had her say in June of 1979, and so Tinker retired. But he wasn't happy not working. He just couldn't see himself retiring at age 63. So, Tinker called his old friend, U.S. Senator ROBERT C. BYRD, and asked him if there was anything he could do for him. Senator BYRD took him in hand, and within a month of his arrival in Washington, he began serving as Doorkeeper for the U.S. Senate, where he worked for another, memorable 21 years.

As noted above, Mr. Speaker, Arthur "Tinker" St. Clair was born to the work ethic, to family values, and to community service. He has worked ever since he graduated from high school in 1937. Without a college degree, Tinker rose from bus driver to County Clerk in his

native McDowell County, helping it to grow and to prosper in good times and bad; in a county who knew Tinker St. Clair for his ability to reach out to every person he met—and who always found a way to help whoever asked—whether it was a local resident and friend, a local official, or candidates for President—it didn't matter to Tinker. He was always sure he could make a difference—at home in McDowell County—and on the national level—and he and his late wife Elnora made that difference.

Since coming to Washington 21 years ago to serve as Doorkeeper, Tinker has maintained his cheerful countenance, shared the wisdom of his years, and found words of encouragement for everyone he met. Just like he did all those years of growing up and working to serve the free state of McDowell County, West Virginia.

I hope that when I reach the age of 63, that rather than retire, I will look for another way to serve my country for another 21 years—until I too have reached the age of 84, just like Tinker St. Clair. I will miss seeing Tinker when I have the chance to go over to the Senate side, where I always knew I would get a smile, a firm handshake, and news from down home.

IN HONOR OF THE FEDKIDS CHILD CARE CENTER AND ITS FOUNDER, SUSAN KOSSIN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fedkids Child Care Center of New York City and its founder, the late Susan Kossin. This is a special time for the Fedkids Center, which is one of the first childcare centers established for the children of federal employees, because it has recently added more than 1,500 square feet of additional space. This expansion more than doubles the capacity of the center and creates additional space that will be able to comfortably care for 83 children—twice the number of children the center could serve when it opened in 1988. This expansion was made possible by the generosity and vision of the founder of Fedkids, Susan Kossin, who unfortunately passed away earlier this year.

Ms. Kossin, who founded the Fedkids Center while employed by the federal government, created the Center, based in Lower Manhattan, because she recognized the lack of adequate childcare facilities in the mid-1980s. Ms. Kossin took on the arduous task of guiding the decisions on site selection, facilities, renovation, equipment, curriculum, licensing, finances, legal issues, contractual issues, affordability plans, and many other aspects of undertaking such an extraordinary challenge.

Ms. Kossin, a working mother herself, ardently supported the Fedkids Center from its conception up until the time of her death. The recent expansion was made possible through a grant that Ms. Kossin left to the Fedkids Center. Aside from the money that financed the expansion, Ms. Kossin's estate has also financed the establishment of a scholarship fund to assist in financing the tuition for children in the Fedkids program. The enthusiastic and nurturing spirit of Ms. Kossin will live on

through the Fedkids expansion as well as through her scholarship.

The organized leadership and guiding spirit of Ms. Kossin made it possible for many mothers and fathers employed by the federal government to feel confident that while they are at work, their children are safe, supervised, and cared for. For providing such an invaluable service, the work Ms. Kossin put toward the Fedkids Center will continually be appreciated in the Lower Manhattan area.

This month, the Fedkids Center will be opening its newly expanded facilities and naming the new center that Ms. Kossin's generosity and guidance created "Fedkids at the Susan Kossin Child Care Center." This new center will continue the mission that the Fedkids Child Care Center set out to accomplish—to provide loving and attentive care for the children of federal and non-federal workers in Lower Manhattan.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that this mission, based on the unique and foresighted vision of Susan Kossin, will continue for many years to come. Today, I am proud to salute the Fedkids Child Care Center and the admirable generosity of a woman far ahead of her time, Susan Kossin.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 522 of Wednesday, October 11, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes numbered 525 and 526, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes numbered 517, 514, 515, 516, and 518, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all of the above.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUEENSVIEW INC. OF QUEENS, NEW YORK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Queensview

Inc. cooperative housing complex of Queens, New York, on its 50th anniversary. The Queensview Inc. opened on June 3, 1950 in Long Island City, Queens, as a result of the lack of affordable housing for middle class residents in the New York City area. Although the concept of living in a cooperative housing complex was a new one, the effort made by the Queensview Inc.'s founders kept middle class families from having to leave New York City.

Queensview, which consists of 14 buildings on 14 acres of park-like land, was conceived through the efforts of shareholders who agreed to pay \$2,500 for unseen apartments and the city of New York, which provided both reclaimed land as well as a partial tax exemption for 25 years. For the past 50 years, Queensview residents have lived in cooperation with each other in a wonderful environment in which to raise a family. The fact that 627 of the first Queensview families continue to reside in the complex attests to the success of the Queensview complex.

This extraordinary housing complex, constructed at the conclusion of World War II as families began settling New York City's outer boroughs, has devoted itself to improving the quality of life for its residents, enabling them to build lives of dignity and self worth. Queensview's conception resulted from the tireless efforts of many prominent citizens who were greatly concerned with improving the standard of living of the burgeoning American middle class. Their efforts not only greatly improved the quality of life for the residents of Queensview, but they also prevented the residents from being forced to relocate out of New York City due to financial hardship. Had it not been for the founders of Queensview, many of the most prominent residents of Queens would not remain in the area today.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to honor and commend those original founders of the Queensview Inc. If not for their foresighted interest in the well-being of many World War II veterans and their families, many residents of my district would not have realized the American Dream.

The Queensview community deserves a moment of recognition because so many people's lives have changed as a result of this exceptional cooperative living complex. I sincerely hope that the families of those original Queensview founders can enjoy the cooperative living experience at Queensview for another 50 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ASA HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 514, rollcall vote No. 516, rollcall vote No. 517, and rollcall vote No. 518 on Friday, October 6, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

109th FIELD ARTILLERY HONORED ON 225TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 109th Field Artillery of the Pennsylvania National Guard on the occasion of its 225th anniversary.

The 109th is one of the oldest organizations in continuous existence in the entire Armed Force. It was organized under Colonel Zebulon Butler on Oct. 17, 1775, just six months after the "shot heard 'round the world" at Concord and Lexington sparked the American Revolution.

Since then, the 109th has served the local community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the nation through many conflicts and emergencies.

Although founded as an infantry unit, the regiment alternated between infantry and artillery throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Under various designations, the unit fought not only in the war for America's independence, but also in most of the nation's major wars.

Mr. Speaker, the history of the 109th in battle is a long, brave and distinguished one. To give just one example, the unit fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, striving valiantly to halt the German offensive in the Ardennes. Once its guns were destroyed, the 109th fought as infantry, often in vicious hand-to-hand combat. For its valor, the battalion was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation, the highest decoration a unit can receive. It is authorized for wear by all current members of the battalion.

The sacrifice of the members of the 109th extended to the Korean War era as well. On Sept. 11, 1950, at Coshocton, Ohio, 33 members of the 109th Pennsylvania National Guard, who had been called into service in the Korean War, were killed in a train wreck and scores were wounded. During the remainder of the war, the battalion, along with the 28th Infantry Division, served in Europe as part of the defenses against the Soviet army.

In 1977, the unit assumed its current designation as the 1st Battalion, 109th Field Artillery. It is a component of the 28th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Pennsylvania National Guard. With an authorized strength of more than 600 members and more than \$50 million worth of equipment, the battalion is a crucial community asset for dealing with emergencies and natural disasters. It is also a key wartime resource, since the National Guard comprises more than half of the entire Army's field artillery force. The 109th also pumps more than \$3 million into the local economy each year.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased and honored to have been asked to serve as honorary chairman of the community dinner that is being held Oct. 13 to honor the unit for its long and distinguished service to the Wyoming Valley and the nation. The chairperson for the dinner is Colonel Keith Martin, and the scheduled speakers are Medal of Honor winner Peter Lemon and reigning Miss America Heather French.

As befits such a milestone anniversary, the dinner is just one of a series of events scheduled for the weekend, including an open house at the armory.

Today, America stands tall as the lone remaining superpower, and freedom and democracy are thriving around the globe. To be sure, many people still do not breathe free, but the progress we have made is truly remarkable, and those National Guard citizen soldiers who have served in the defense of our nation and the cause of freedom helped to make this possible. In addition to honoring their service in wartime, it is especially important to honor their service in peacetime emergencies and disasters.

Mr. Speaker, I join a grateful Wyoming Valley in honoring all those who have served in the 109th Field Artillery in its 225 years of existence, and I am pleased to call their service to the attention of the House of Representatives.

SOUTH AMERICA HAS SUFFERED FROM WHITE HOUSE NEGLECT

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the urgent attention of my colleagues an important article in the October 6, 2000, Wall Street Journal, entitled, "South America Has Suffered From White House Neglect," by David Malpass, who is the Chief Economist at Bear Stearns.

This must-read article spells out this administration's culpability in the disastrous role which U.S. policy gurus, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have played in the rapid decline in the economies of our Latin American neighbors.

Malpass points out that the 1990s "began with a vision of free trade across the Western Hemisphere launched with the completion of the North American Free Trade Agreement. . . ." After NAFTA's implementation, he writes, there was "reason to believe that the U.S. would lead the region toward trade liberalization."

Unfortunately, as the decade progressed the U.S. role in the region "turned destructive." Washington promoted weak currencies, high tax rates, IMF-style austerity, and big government, Malpass observes, "ignoring the resulting poverty and political stress." Further, U.S. opposition to regional currency stability and its insistence on special labor and environmental standards resulted in inflation in Latin America and a sharp rise in poverty.

The writer observes that the Clinton-Gore administration has "wasted a decade of U.S. prosperity, making no real effort to share the U.S. techniques of prosperity with our neighbors." He concludes that "the coming U.S. election offers Latin America the chance for an end to the eight-year vacuum in U.S. policy."

I urge my colleagues to read this important article carefully.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Oct. 6, 2000]

SOUTH AMERICA HAS SUFFERED FROM WHITE
HOUSE NEGLECT

(By David Malpass)

As Latin America prepares for a new president of the United States, it is right to hope for an improvement in U.S. policies toward the region. Chief among these would be a serious free trade agenda and an end to force-

feeding the region International Monetary Fund austerity programs.

The 1990s began with a vision of free trade across the Western Hemisphere, launched with the completion of the North American Free Trade Agreement at the end of the Bush administration and President Clinton's signature on the 1993 enabling legislation. Hemispheric free trade offered a chance to expand the economic pie dramatically during the decade. With U.S. unemployment falling toward 4% and Nafta a notable success, there was reason to believe that the U.S. would lead the region toward trade liberalization. International trade was at the core of the U.S. economic breakout of the 1980s, and Latin America hoped to become a partner.

But beyond rhetoric and a summit full of promises, the U.S. basically lost its interest in Latin America. The Clinton administration offered no follow-through on the free trade vision, no substitute vision, and barely an apology. The free-trade vision morphed into fair trade, code language for maintaining the status quo. U.S. demands for special labor and environmental standards as conditions for an agreement effectively ruled out U.S.-led trade liberalization. Latin America's disappointment at U.S. indifference deepened, as U.S. promises of trade and engagement proved hollow.

As the decade progressed, the U.S. role in the region turned destructive. Washington's policy gurus promoted weak currencies, high tax rates and big government, ignoring the resulting poverty and political stress. A cycle of damage, financial crises and flat-footed U.S. responses ensued. The U.S. dragged its feet on IMF/World Bank reform and proposed no pro-growth model for international development. Colombia's civil war worsened, fed by bad economic policies, high inflation and U.S. disinterest.

Through its own efforts, Latin America has had some important successes in the last decade, including Mexico's 2000 election and Brazil's quick return to a stable currency after its 1999 devaluation. But the 1990s should have been much better for the region given the strength of the U.S. economy and the high hopes of 1992 and 1993.

Latin America's growth is now well short of its potential, leaving millions unemployed and impoverished. Worse yet, because many of these countries defended their anti-market policies in IMF-speak and Washington's "no-pain, no-gain" view that capitalism should hurt, disillusioned populations are now blaming free-markets for their declining circumstances.

Rather than free trade, the administration championed IMF-style austerity for Latins. No tax rate was too high, as witnessed by President Clinton's outspoken support of Argentina's failing experiment with tax hikes and a broad-based 21% value-added tax. In places like Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia, the U.S. and IMF have encouraged financial transaction taxes, one of the most harmful

types of taxes for the development of sound financial markets. While Europe is turning to tax cuts to bolster its competitiveness, the Washington elite has pushed Latin America forcefully into higher tax rates and militant revenue extraction.

The U.S. policy failure toward Latin America extends beyond the economy to the core of our national heritage. After President Clinton's September 1999 meeting with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, the administration said "we are more confident about him." Mr. Chavez returned to Venezuela to finalize a new, power-centralizing constitution that would be anathema to Americans, and methodically embraced Fidel Castro as a Latin role model.

The vacuum in U.S. international policy is equally apparent in energy issues. By 2000, Mr. Chavez became OPEC's cheerleader for expensive oil, joining Saddam Hussein in Bagdad to discuss strategy. It is inexplicable that Mexico, a Nafta partner, participated actively in OPEC quotas in 1999. The U.S. and Mexico should work closely together to develop new North American energy resources, an undertaking that would be hugely profitable for Mexico and would lessen U.S. dependence on OPEC.

The 1990s began auspiciously for Latin American currencies with the establishment of Argentina's currency board. Inflation fell, and both the economy and financial markets surged. The brain drain that had plagued Argentina for years reversed as business school graduates headed back home to build companies.

Soon, however, the U.S. administration's opposition to regional currency stability asserted itself, leaving Argentina the odd country out. The Clinton administration and the IMF, working closely together, declined to work for currency stability in Russia, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, or Southeast Asia. This culminated in their outright rejection of a currency board in Indonesia in early 1998 and the Russian default later that year. The U.S. intoned that "a strong dollar is in our national interest," but did nothing to share this approach abroad. Ecuador has recently dollarized, embracing a foreign currency in the hope that its grinding fall into poverty will stop. But in Ecuador's words, the IMF's only role in this progress was to do no further harm.

The result of the weak-currency policies of the 1990s was predictable. The poor could not protect themselves from the ensuing inflation and the middle class fell backward, undoing years of hard work. Latin American poverty grew sharply. The World Bank found "no clear evidence of progress in reducing poverty" in the 1990s, counting 183 million people living on less than \$2 per day in 1998, up from 162 million in 1993. A United Nations study found that 51% of rural Latin households lived in poverty in 1997. In Colombia, where civil war threatened, the currency

sank and rural poverty rose to 54% in 1997 from 45% in 1980.

The coming U.S. election offers Latin America the chance for an end to the eight-year vacuum in U.S. policy. The Clinton-Gore administration has wasted a decade of U.S. prosperity, making no real effort to share the U.S. techniques of prosperity with our neighbors. The policy vacuum has hurt both the U.S. and Latin America and deserves to be corrected. A U.S. policy built on free trade, stable currencies, lower tax rates, smaller government, more economic freedom and a genuine interest in Latin America's success would begin to undo the damage.

HONORING RICK SHEETS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to celebrate the life of Rick Sheets. Rick, a popular radio personality, recently passed away at age 45. For many years Rick has entertained the people of western Colorado, whether it be joking around during his radio spots or rooting for the Denver Broncos. As family, friends, and colleagues mourn this incredible loss, I would like to pay tribute to this remarkable human being.

Rick was known to his listeners as Rick Lawrence. For over two decades he entertained listeners of the Grand Valley. He has worked in a number of different capacities for many different radio stations throughout western Colorado. He began with KEXO-AM then on to KSTR-AM and FM and most recently with Mustang Country 95.1 and KOOL 107.9. Throughout his tenure in radio, he was best known for his dedication to Broncos' football where he earned the nickname Doc Bronco.

Rick's reputation on the air was exceptional but it was his work in the community that will be long remembered. He served as a Partners volunteer and used his on-air experience to work as a television auctioneer for over ten years. He was a well-known supporter of the March of Dimes, giving a number of on-air interviews and also worked with the Bronco Youth Foundation.

Rick entertained and served the community of Grand Junction in immeasurable ways. His work with Colorado's youth will not soon be forgotten. Rick served his community well and his loving memory will live on in the hearts of all that had the pleasure of knowing him, both on the air and off. He will be greatly missed.